

MARVEL

NO. 86

COMICS

10¢

MYSTERY

WE'VE GOT TO WORK
FAST, TORO---ONE OF
THESE MASKED PEOPLE
IS A KILLER!

THE FOOLS! THEY
PASSED ME RIGHT BY!
THIS SPELLS THE END
OF THE TORCH AND
TORO!

JOIN THE
TORCH AND TORO
IN THE
"CARNIVAL
OF
CRIME!"



HAVE FUN! GET LAUGHS.. AMAZE FRIENDS



So-Called ELECTRIC JOY BUZZER

Tickles and seems to shock them. The Joy Buzzer can be concealed in the palm of your hand after slipping a ring over one of your fingers. When you shake hands with anyone they touch off a mechanism that causes it to tickle, which to some seems like a shocking sensation. Only 95c. Order by No. 161.

POCKET ADDING MACHINE

Amazing New Midget Adding Machine
FITS YOUR POCKET

Add, Divide, Subtract, Multiply - So Simple, So Easy to Use! These work in higher 10-foot adding machines. Durable hand-made brass construction. Send for MIDGET ADDING MACHINE. On arrival, only \$2.99 plus C.O.D. postage. Test to days, and if you don't say it's the greatest bargain ever, return for MONEY BACK. See address below. Order by No. 144.



GUARANTEED GENUINE 21-POWER BINOCULARS

Have a close-up view of far-off events with these sensationally low-priced, all purpose, life-weight, heavy duty, plastic binoculars. (Neck strap with each pair) TEST 10 DAYS AT OUR RISK and are amazed at their power and beauty or refund guaranteed. SEND NO MONEY - pay postman \$2.89 plus 20% postage. DONT WAIT - SUPPLY IS LIMITED - DEMAND IS GREAT. RUSH YOUR ORDER.

COMB-A-TRIM

Something new! Trim your hair just like you comb your hair! Also removes hair from legs, arms, etc. Save on haircuts. Trim your own hair and family's too! Only 89c. Order by No. 534.



NOW BROADCAST IN YOUR HOME WITH THIS AMAZING RADIO "MIKE"

Sensational new invention attaches to your radio. Speak into Mike and your voice comes through the speaker as if you were broadcasting! Around your friends as your voice comes over the air. No one can tell the difference unless you give the joke away! Amazing "MIKE" looks just like a real microphone. Get one today! Just \$1.49. Order by number. No. 641.

16mm MOVIE PROJECTOR

Hand Operated

Show your own movies at home. Easy to use.



Safe, 100-foot film capacity. Uses regular home type electric light bulb. Wide choice film available. Use order coupon. Only \$7.95. No. 806.

LIARS MEDALS BARRELS OF FUN

Make this medal on your barrel! The president of your barrel! (With CLAR) When others get "too tall" you'll remember everybody's barrel! Order by No. 345.



SQUIRT RING

Send the joke to your friends! Mention your ring and as they look down - a squirt stream of water in their face! So much so innocent looking they never suspect. Only 69c. No. 090.



AMAZING NEW "TOGETHER" LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP RING

A beautiful emblem of love, friendship and good wishes. This ring is sterling silver, which becomes more attractive as it is worn. The hands actually clasp and unclasp as illustrated. Send no money now, just name, address and ring size. Your package sent immediately. You pay postman only \$2.49 plus a few cents postage, and tax on arrival. SATISFACTION OR MONEY BACK.

LEARN TO DANCE

Why be a lonely, triangular wallflower when you can learn all the modern dances from the most modern to old favorites at home - in private without teacher, music or partner. So easy even a child can learn quickly. This book shows teach you in five days of 30 min. See order coupon. Only \$1.00.



DRIBBLE GLASS

Make your drinking friends drink! It's just like ordinary glass and makes water dribbles through slots to spill! So one can detect it! Roaring laughs everywhere! No. 592, just 49c.



This amazing new gun looks and makes a noise like a real machine gun. 26 in. long. Completely SAFE. An outstanding buy that will make every real boy happy. Only \$1.98. No. 980.



AMAZING Beautiful HORSE RING

Send no money. Price only \$2.49 plus 20% tax and postage. Order by No. 330.

Now Play this New HARMONICA In 15 Minutes



You Can Now Get This Brand New Golden-Tone Harmonica PLUS Simplified Course of Instruction That Quickly Teaches You to Play Song After of Every Kind for only \$1.49.

If you can hum a tune you can learn to play. Not a toy, but a real musical instrument. Order No. 824.

Amazing MAGIC PENCIL

Get the right answer every time! Mistakes are impossible with this handy new invention! Divides up to 144, multiplies any primary number in a flash. Fits conveniently on pencil. Send no money - on arrival pay postman just 49c plus postage. Check No. 593 on coupon!

MARRIAGE LICENSE FOOLER

Fill in the names and have a fooler! Use it to fool your friends, and "fool" them. It's a simulated official Marriage License, one of the best practical jokes. Price only 15c. Ask for Marriage License Fooler. Order by No. 162.

CRAZY MIRROR

Hilarious new novelty! Distorts face into anything you want. Get more laughs than anything you've ever seen. Makes new friends, amuses old! Get one today. Just 15c. Check No. 201 on coupon below.

HOW TO ORDER

Simply state item desired and price and mail your order to HOLISTER-WHITE CO., DEPT. 542, 215 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 1, Ill. If cash order with order, we pay postage. If C.O.D. postage is extra. Every item is fully guaranteed and may be returned in 10 days for refund if not satisfied. If you only want a FREE CATALOG, write name and address on a separate postcard.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____

669 JOY BUZZER.....	39
141 MIDGET ADDING MACHINE.....	2.99
716 BINOCULARS.....	2.99
534 COMB-A-TRIM.....	.89
641 RADIO MIKE.....	1.49
888 HAND-OPERATED PROJECTOR.....	7.95
142 LIARS MEDAL.....	.25
609 SQUIRT RING.....	.69
522 FRIENDSHIP RING.....	2.49
117 LEARN TO DANCE.....	1.00
382 DRIBBLE GLASS.....	.49
980 MACHINE GUN.....	1.98
300 HORSESHOE RING.....	2.50
624 HARMONICA.....	.49
593 MAGIC PENCIL.....	.49
162 MARRIAGE LICENSE FOOLER.....	.15
364 CRAZY MIRROR.....	.15

USE THIS SPECIAL ORDER BLANK

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THE HUMAN TORCH



BEHIND THE GROTESQUE MASKS OF A CROWD OF REVELERS LIES HIDDEN THE EVIL FACE OF A MAD KILLER WHO WOULD CLAIM THE HELPLESS HOST OF THE FIESTA AS HIS VICTIM! INTO THIS INTRIGUE BLAZE THE *HUMAN TORCH* AND *TORO*, IN A DARING EFFORT TO END THE HORROR OF...

"THE **CARNIVAL** OF CRIME!"

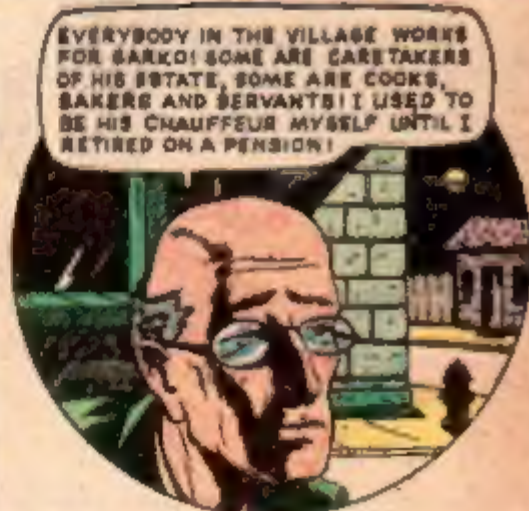
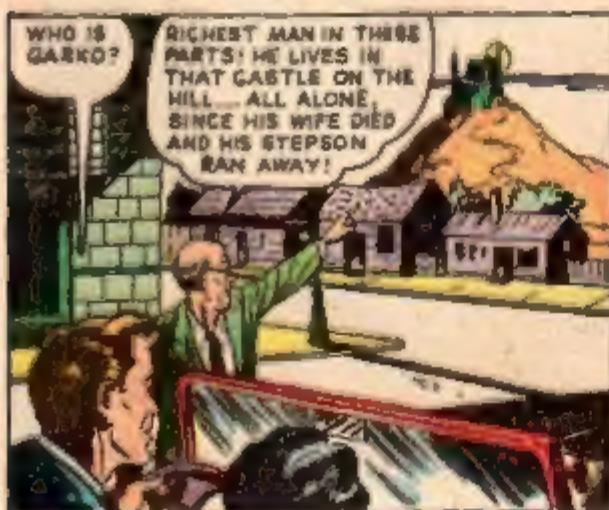
LITTLE COULD THE BRAIN THAT DESIGNED THE MASK HAVE KNOWN THAT IT WAS MEANT TO BECOME AN INSTRUMENT OF MURDER!

THERE! IT'S FINISHED!

PUT IT WITH THE OTHERS, LOUISE! THEN OPEN THE DOOR FOR BUSINESS! THE TOWNSPEOPLE ARE WAITING TO BUY THEIR MASKS!

YES, FATHER!





LATER... AFTER TORCH AND TORCH HAVE RETURNED SOMEBODY FOR THE NIGHT.



MEANWHILE, IN THE REAR OF
THE MASQUER'S SHOP...

WHAT'S THE MATTER,
FATHER?

I THOUGHT I
HEARD SOMEONE
IN THE SHOP! BUT
I CLOSED HALF
AN HOUR AGO!



STAY HERE, CHILD!
I'LL GO AND SEE
WHO IT IS!



EH? WHO'S THERE?
SPEAK UP!



YOU'RE STEALING
ONE OF MY MASKS!
GIVE IT TO ME!

LET GO,
YOU OLD
FOOL!



YOU! I KNOW WHO
YOU ARE!
UHHHH!



THAT'S UNFORTUNATE
FOR YOU!

AHHH!



BEFORE THE
ECHOES OF THE
SHOTS DIE, TWO
FLAMING
FIGURES
SPEED
INTO
ACTION!

SHOTS! DID
YOU HEAR
THEM, TORCH?

BOUNDED LIKE THE
SHOTS CAME FROM
THE MASQUER'S
SHOP!



IF ANYONE HEARD THE SHOTS,
THIS MASK WILL SAVE ME
FROM RECOGNITION! HA-HA!
"THE MASK" THAT'S ME!

WELL, YOU'RE ABOUT TO
BE UNMASKED!

UHHH!



YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR
PRACTICALLY KILLS
ME!



SO I'LL RETURN THE FAVOR
AND-- PRACTICALLY
KILL YOU!



MY FATHER!
YOU KILLED
HIM!

HOT US,
LADY!



IT WAS HIM!
FLAMING HEMLOCKS!
HE'S GETTING AWAY!







THESE ARE MY LOYAL VASSALS! HEH-HEH! THEY ALL HATE ME! BUT THEY'VE NO CHOICE EXCEPT TO OBEY MY WHIMS!



IS EVERYTHING PREPARED FOR THE BANQUET? THE BEST LINENS... SILVER... ALL THE EVIDENCES OF MY WEALTH?

YES, SIR! ALL IS AS YOU ORDERED!



LET THE FOOLS DROOL WITH ENVY OVER MY POSSESSIONS! WATCHING THEIR SIMPLE-MINDED AWE IS ONE OF THE FEW SATISFACTIONS THAT REMAINS TO ME!

LATER, IN THE BANQUET ROOM OF GARKO'S CASTLE...



THE OLD BOY CERTAINLY DOESN'T SPARE THE EXPENSE!

HE'S PUTTING ON PLENTY OF DAZZLE!



I HAVE CHOSEN YOU, MY DEAR, AS FAIRY OF ALL! CUT THE CELEBRATION CAKE! LET THE FIESTA OFFICIALLY BEGIN!

Y-YES, MR. GARKO!



SUDDENLY!

THE GARKO JEWELS! THEY'RE MISSING!

WHAT?



I PUT THEM IN THE GLASS DISPLAY CASE, JUST AS YOU ORDERED! WHEN I LOOKED A FEW MOMENTS AGO, THEY WERE GONE!

DON'T LET ANYONE LEAVE THIS HOUSE! WE'LL SEARCH ALL THE GUESTS!

SECONDS LATER...

WHERE ARE
WE GOING,
TORCH?

THE THIEF WOULD
ANTICIPATE A
SEARCH! HE
UNDOUBTEDLY
LEFT THE CASTLE
AS SOON AS HE
TOOK THE JEWELS!

BUT HE DIDN'T GET
MUCH OF A
HEADSTART! THERE
HE IS NOW!

THEY'VE
SEEN ME!

IT'S THE ONE WHO
KILLED THE
MASK-MAKER!

I'LL LOSE THEM IN HERE!
THE FOOLS - TO TRY
TO STOP "THE
MASK!"

WE'LL GET THE MURDERING
THIEF! THERE'S NO OTHER
WAY OUT OF THIS
GREENHOUSE!

I SEE HIM, TORCH!
BEHIND THAT
PLANT!

YOU
FLAMING
DEVIL!

WATER WILL PUT
YOU OUT!

AND THIS WILL
PUT YOU OUT!

OOOF!



YOU SAY THE JEWELS
WERE IN A DISPLAY CASE?
THAT'S STRANGE YOU
DON'T HAVE ANY
KIND OF AN ALARM
RIGGED

D'YOU TAKE ME
FOR AN IDIOT?
OF COURSE THERE
WAS AN ALARM.
SOMEHOW THE THIEF
MANAGED TO STEAL
THE JEWELS WITHOUT
SETTING IT OFF



AND HE KNEW EXACTLY
WHERE TO FIND THE AUTOMATIC
SPRINKLER, IN THE GREENHOUSE.
IT ALL POINTS TO ONE
CONCLUSION! THE
THIEF IS SOMEONE
IN YOUR EMPLOY

RIDICULOUS!



THESE CHICKEN-
HEARTED FOOLS
WOULDN'T HAVE
THE NERVE TO
STEAL FROM ME!
GO AWAY, AND
DON'T BOTHER
WITH THIS
ANYMORE!

BUT WHAT ABOUT
YOUR JEWELS?
AREN'T YOU
GOING TO TRY
TO GET THEM
BACK?

IT'S NOT WORTH
THE BOTHER! I ONLY
PLT THEM OUT FOR
DISPLAY, TO IMPRESS
THE STUPID COUNTRY
OAFS! THE JEWELS
ARE PASTE! THE
REAL GARKO JEWELS
ARE SAFE IN THE
FAMILY VAULTS!
HEH-HEH!



MEANWHILE, IN A DESERTED
STABLE ON THE GARKO ESTATE

PASTE! I'VE BEEN TRICKED!
THESE AREN'T WORTH
ANYTHING!



I MUST HAVE MONEY! I'LL
GET IT TONIGHT. BEFORE THE
FIESTA IS OVER-OR MY DISGUISE
WILL CEASE TO BE ANY
PROTECTION!



MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE CASTLE

I'VE BEEN THINKING
ABOUT THIS CASE!
WHY DIDN'T THE
THIEF BUY A MASK
FROM YOUR FATHER
INSTEAD OF
STEALING IT

I-I CAN'T
IMAGINE!



THERE'S ONLY ONE EXPLANATION! THE THIEF COULDN'T AFFORD TO BE SEEN! HE IS SOMEONE YOUR FATHER WOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED—ONE WHO SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN IN THE VILLAGE



LATER, IN THE GRAND BALL-ROOM

SAY YOU'RE THE MAYOR OF THIS TOWN AREN'T YOU?

WHY YES HOW DID YOU KNOW?



I IDENTIFIED YOU FROM THE MASK THAT YOU BOUGHT FROM MY FATHER! THE HUMAN TORCH WISHES TO TALK WITH YOU!

CAN'T IT WAIT UNTIL LATER?



NO IT CAN'T! IF I'M RIGHT OUR MASKED MURDERER WILL RETURN TONIGHT! WE'VE GOT TO HEAD HIM OFF BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

W-WHAT CAN I DO?



LOUISE TELLS ME YOU KNOW THE HISTORY OF EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE. WE KNOW CERTAIN FACTS ABOUT THE MURDERER! I WANT YOU TO HELP ME IDENTIFY HIM!

[I- I'LL BE GLAD TO GIVE YOU ANY INFORMATION I CAN!]



AT THIS MOMENT IN THE CASTLE'S UNDERGROUND VAULT

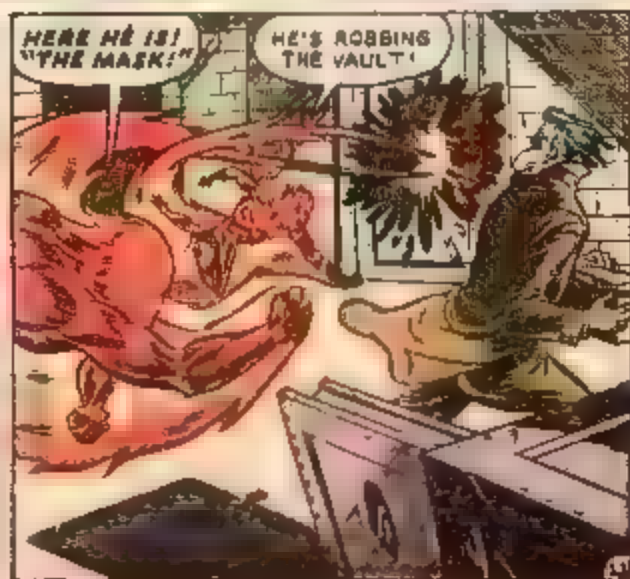
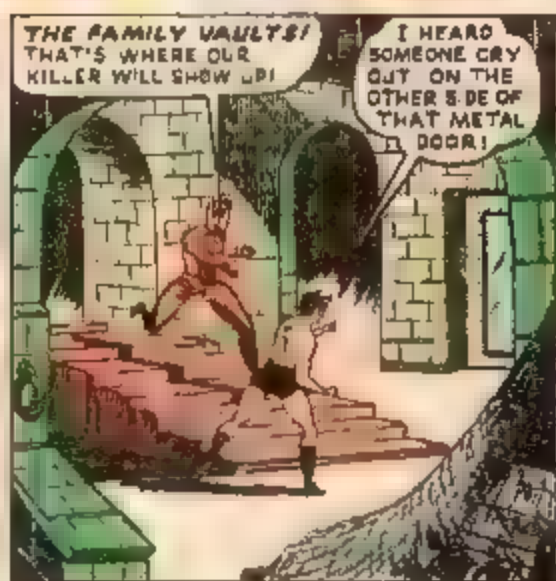
THERE! WE CHANGED THE COMBINATION TO THE VAULT. NO ONE CAN BREAK INTO IT NOW!



I DON'T INTEND TO BREAK INTO IT! YOU'RE GOING TO OPEN IT FOR ME!

HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?







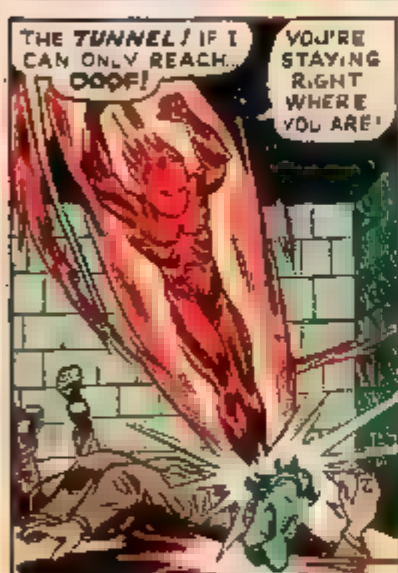
STAY BACK!

I NEVER DID LISTEN TO ADVICE



ESPECIALLY BAD ADVICE!

LIHHH!



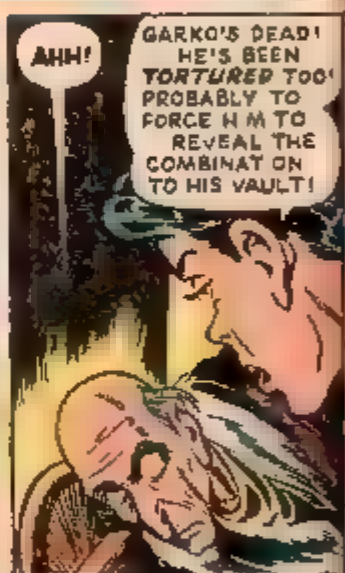
THE TUNNEL! IF I CAN ONLY REACH...
OOOF!

YOU'RE STAYING RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!



DO YOU KNOW THIS MAN, GARKO?

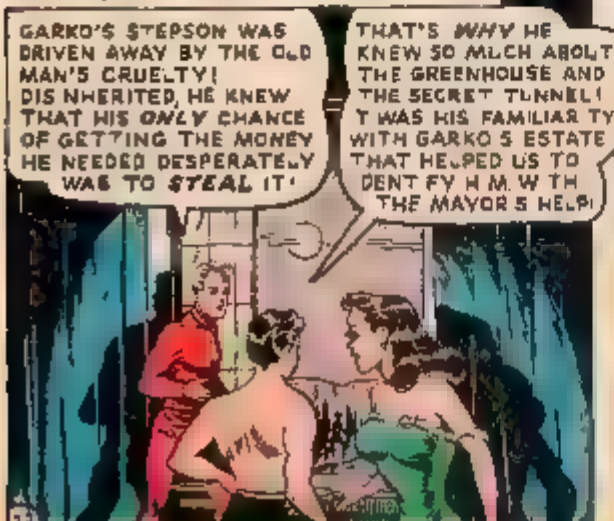
HE HE'S MY STEPSON!



AHH!

GARKO'S DEAD! HE'S BEEN TORTURED TOO! PROBABLY TO FORCE HIM TO REVEAL THE COMBINATION TO HIS VAULT!

LATER, WHEN THE POLICE HAVE GONE



GARKO'S STEPSON WAS DRIVEN AWAY BY THE OLD MAN'S CRUELTY! DISHERITED, HE KNEW THAT HIS ONLY CHANCE OF GETTING THE MONEY HE NEEDED DESPERATELY WAS TO STEAL IT!

THAT'S WHY HE KNEW SO MUCH ABOUT THE GREENHOUSE AND THE SECRET TUNNEL! IT WAS HIS FAMILIARITY WITH GARKO'S ESTATE THAT HELPED US TO IDENTIFY HIM WITH THE MAYOR'S HELP!



THE FIESTA IS OVER! THE VILLAGERS ARE RETURNING TO TOWN!

THE SONGS AND LAUGHTER HAVE ENDED! NO MAN CAN TELL WHAT

SORROWS ARE HIDDEN BEHIND ALL THOSE PAINTED MASKS

THE END

SUB-MARINER



BREEDING CRIME, THE SLUMS OF NEW YORK PROVIDE THE LOCALS FOR A VICIOUS GANG OF THIEVES! FIGHTING TO SAVE AN INNOCENT MAN AND TO JUSTIFY A SMALL BOY'S FAITH, *SUB-MARINER* AND *NAMORA* FOLLOW THESE TREACHEROUS CRIMINALS INTO THEIR OWN TERRITORY, AS THEY STRIVE TO SOLVE...

The CASE of the

The CASE of the
"DISAPPEARING WATCHMAN!"

ON NEW YORK'S DINGY WATERFRONT -

-EY MISTER! WHERE'S
D' SUB MARINER
HANG OUT, HEY? QUICK -
GOTTA FIND 'IM!

OVER YONDER KID!



MISTER SUB-MARINER?

HEY GOSH! ON 3034!
GEE, I'M GLAD I FOUND
YOUSE! I GOTTA HAVE
HELP, MISTER - YOLSE
GOTTA HELP
ME!

COME OVER HERE
SONNY - WHO ARE
YOU AND WHAT'S
YOUR TROUBLE?



NAME'S RONNIE DOWELL, SIR - ME AN'
HE OLD MAN'S GOT A HOUSE BOAT -- HE'S
"BL'NKER" DOWELL, WATCHMAN AT D' CASE
IMPORTIN' COMPANY WAREHOUSE -- BUT
HE'S DISAPPEARED! I'M
SKEERED HE'S IN TROUBLE,
SIR - HE DONE A STRETCH IN
D' PEN -- HE WAS FRAMED --
AN' --



HEY LET 'IM OUT ON PAROLE LAST MONTH

FIVE DOLLARS AND A NEW
SUIT OF CLOTHES, DOWELL!
GOOD-BY AND GOOD LUCK!

THANK YOU, WARDEN!
I'LL NEED 'T!



WE COME RIGHT HOME TO D' HOUSEBOAT

YES RONNIE IT'S GOOD TO BE FREE AGAIN
AND I SWEAR ON YOUR MOTHER'S SACRED
MEMORY THAT I'LL GO
STRAIGHT FROM NOW
ON!

GEE POP
DAT'S SWELL!



NEXT DAY, ONE OF POP'S FRIENDS, A COP, GOT
IM A JOB IN D' WAREHOUSE, AS WATCHMAN --

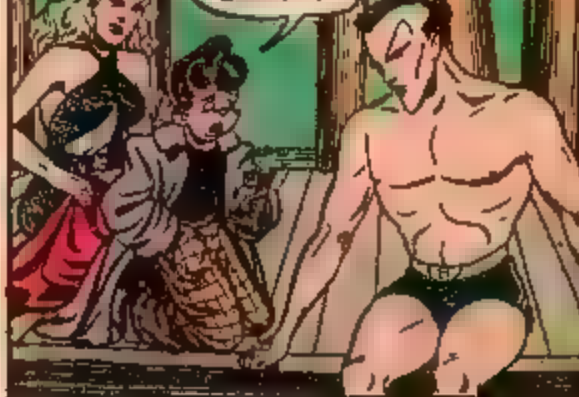
WE'LL MIKE WE GOT A POL CY AGAINST EX 'CONS',
BUT IF YOU SAY DOWELL'S
OKAY -- HE'S HIRED!



AN' NOW - LOOK AT DIS NEWSPAPER! DE WAREHOUSE WAS ROBBED LAST N'GHT, AN' POP'S DISAPPEARED! DE COPS THNK ME OLD MAN WAS ONE OF DE GANG DAT DONE IT -- 'COUNTA HIS RECORD --



BUT I KNOW HE DIDN'T HAVE NOTHIN' TO DO WIT' IT! HONEST SUB-MARINER! YOU GOTTA HELP ME FIND ME POP, AN' PROVE HE'S STRAIGHT. I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH DOUGH YOU WANT... BUT HERE S ME LIFE'S SAVINGS -- \$16.23 - DAT ENOUGH?



WIM-M-M! IT CERTAINLY LOOKS BAD FOR YOUR FATHER, RONNIE -- BUT YOU KNOW, I THINK I BELIEVE YOU! AND IF WE'RE RIGHT, THIS IS THE KIND OF CASE I LIKE -- WE'LL TAKE YOUR \$16.23 FOR A RETAINER -- IF IT'S WORTH THAT MUCH TO YOU, YOU MUST BE RIGHT!



SEE, SUB-MARINER, DAT'S SWEET! KIN I GO ALONG WIT' YOU?

NO, RONNIE - YOU GO ON HOME! NAMORA AND I ARE GOING DOWN TO THE WAREHOUSE --



TEN MINUTES LATER --

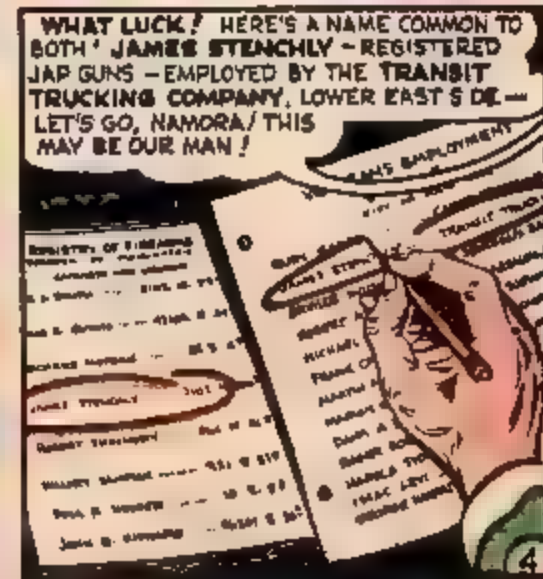
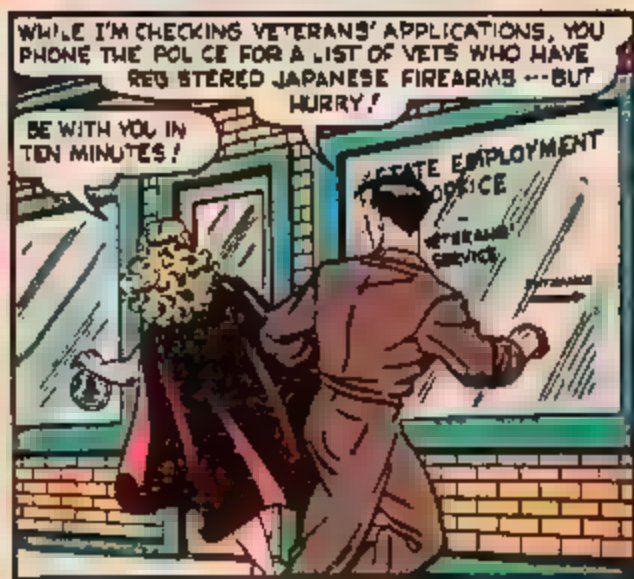
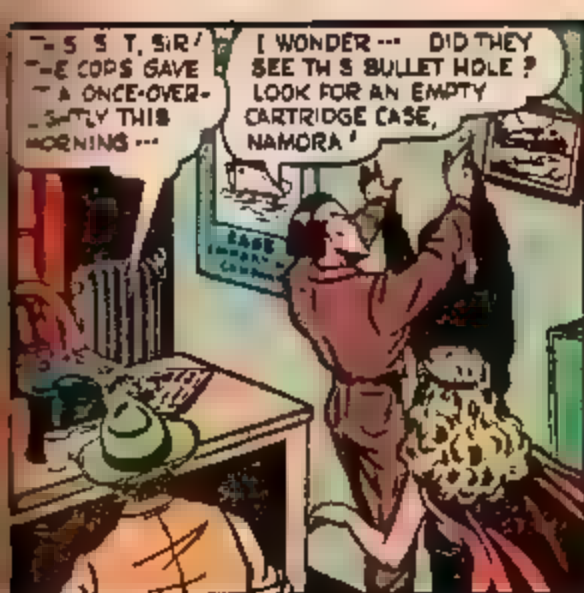
HERE WE ARE, NAMORA -- NOT MUCH TO SEE FROM OUT HERE! OFFICE IS CLOSED, BUT THERE'LL BE A GUARD INSIDE!



SUB-MARINER! YOU DON'T NEED NO IDENTIFICATION, SIR! I SPOSE YOU'RE HERE ABOUT THE ROBBERY?

YES -- WE'D LIKE TO SEE THE NIGHT-WATCHMAN'S OFFICE, PLEASE!





ISN'T THIS PLAYING
AN AWFUL LONG-
SHOT NAMOR?
AFTER ALL...

IT'S ONE OF MY HUNCHES,
NAMORA — AND WE'RE
GOING TO PLAY IT WITH
A MASQUERADE! —
HEY —
TAXI!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, IN NAMOR'S HIDE-OUT --

WE'LL PASS FOR A COUPLE OF
UNEMPLOYED TRUCK DRIVERS —
AND REMEMBER... YOU'RE A
MAN NOW!

OKAY, BUD — I
GOTCHA!



HERE WE ARE...
DON'T LOOK VERY
BUSY, DO THEY?
WELL — LET'S
GO IN!

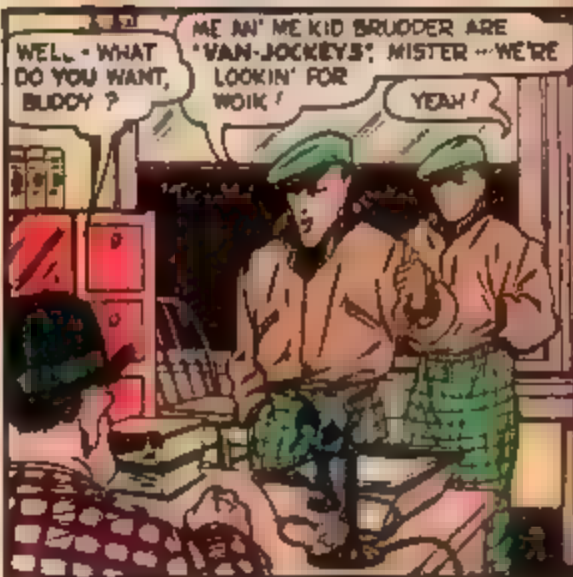
HOPE THEY CAN
USE US, BUT —
I'M A LITTLE
LEERY, NAMOR!



WELL — WHAT
DO YOU WANT,
BUDDY?

ME AN' ME KID BRUDDER ARE
'VAN-JOCKEYS', MISTER — WE'RE
LOOKIN' FOR
WOIK!

YEAH!



SORRY, GUY —
WE AIN'T
HIR N' NOBODY
TODAY —
SCRAM!

LISTEN, MISTER, WE GOTTA
WOIK! WE'RE BOTH
BUSITTEN, AN' — AN' —
AN' IN TROUBLE!

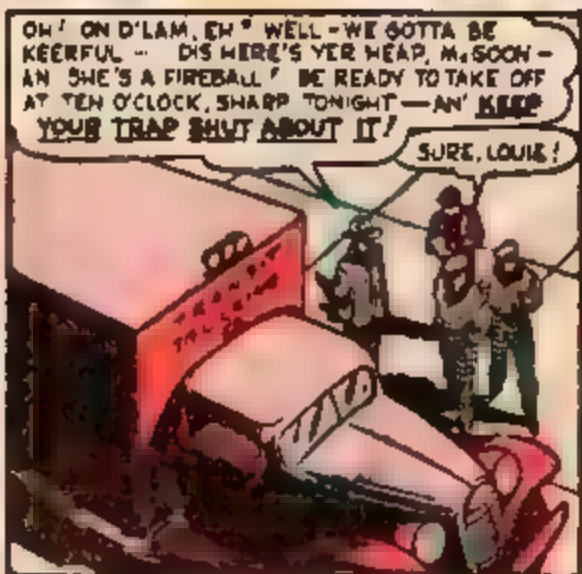
YEAH!

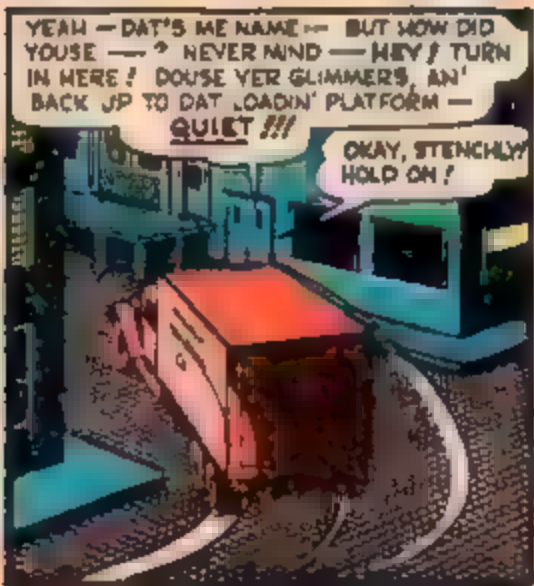
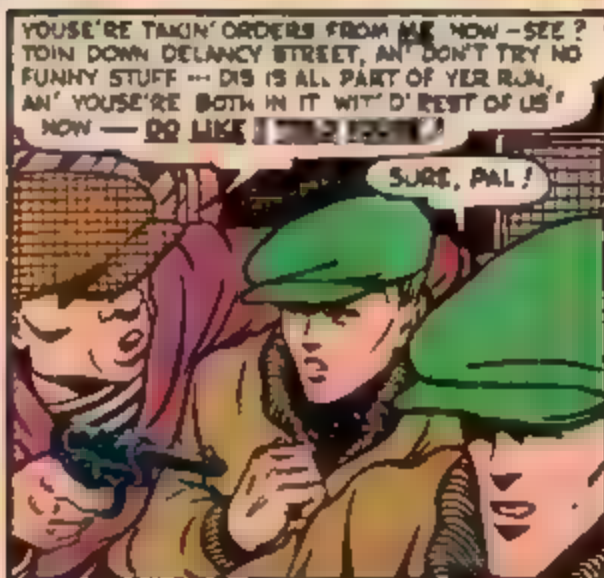
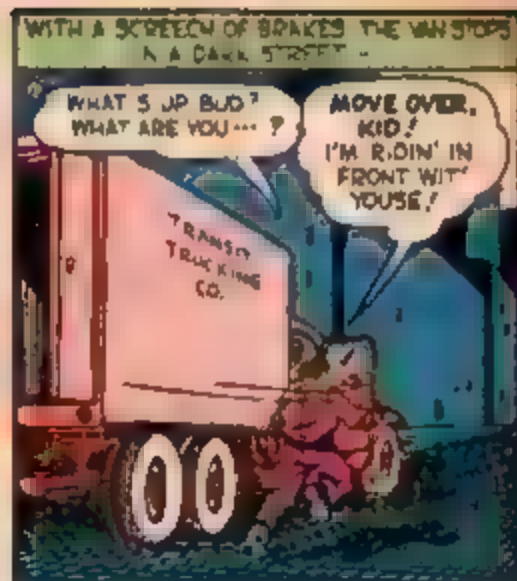
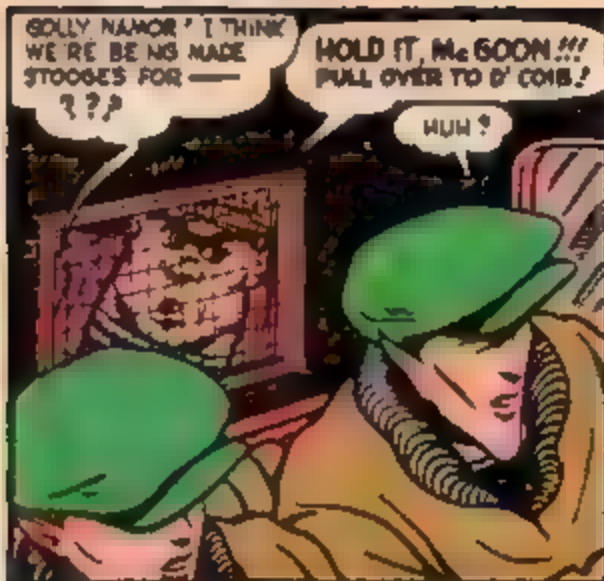


OH-HO! COP TROUBLE, MAYBE? UH-HUH!
WELL, WELL, WELL! I'D OUGHTA TURN YOUSE
IN, BUT IT JUST HAPPENS... CAN YOUSE
HANDLE A 4-TON JOB? GOOD! SO GET
BACK AN' TELL LOUIS I SAID TO PUT YOUSE
ON D' NIGHT SHIFT...
STARTIN' NOW!

YEAH!









HEY YOU!
WHAT TH—?
WHEE-BOOM!

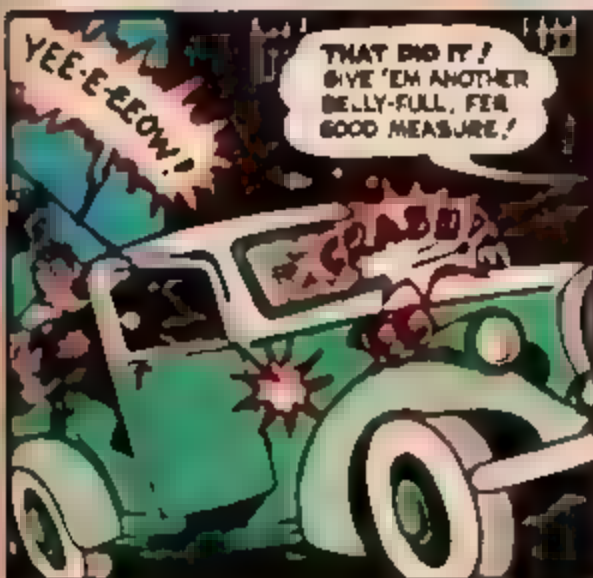
DA WHE-BOOM!
I GOT 'EM MY!

COME ON
YOU MUGS—
START LOADIN
DESE BOLTS O'
MUN!



WHEEEEEER!
COPPERS!

LET 'EM
HAVE IT,
MIKE!



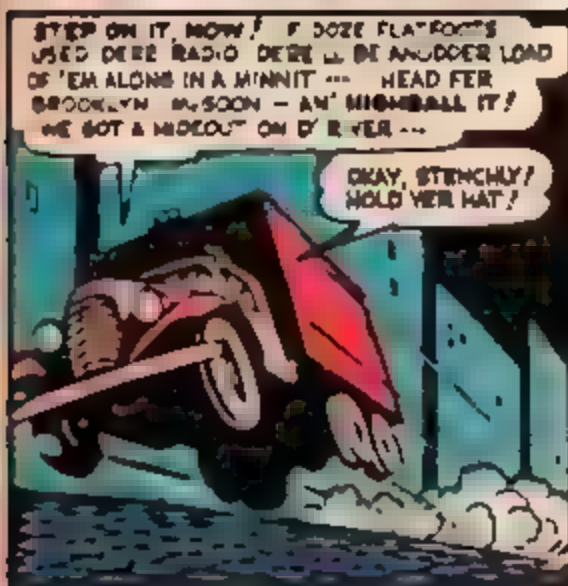
YEE-E-E-EOW!

THAT DID IT!
SHYE 'EM ANOTHER
BELLY-FULL, FER
GOOD MEASURE!



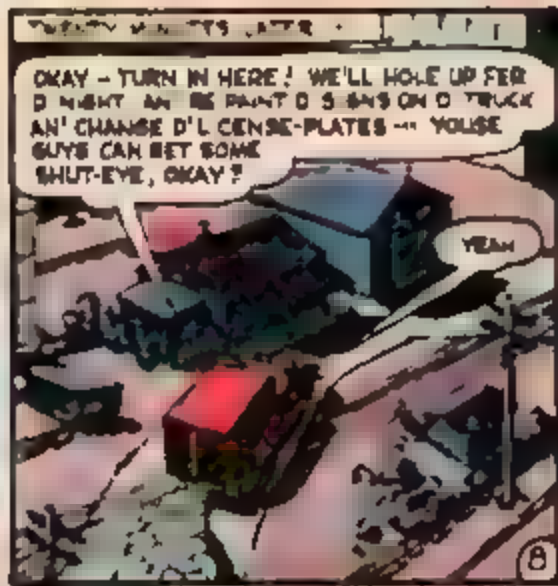
WIND 'ER UP McBOOM! O BOYS 'E
PIL N' IN D'BACK---WE AIN'T GOT TIME TO
FINISH DIS JOB!

GOOD! THEY AIN'T
SUSPECT!



STEP ON IT, NOW! F DOZE FLATFOOTS
USED DESE RADIO DESE LL BE ANUDDER LOAD
OF 'EM ALONG IN A MINNIT --- HEAD FER
BROOKLYN IN A SOON - AN' HIGHBALL IT!
WE GOT A WIDEOUT ON D' RIVER ---

OKAY, STENCHLY!
HOLD YER HAT!



OKAY - TURN IN HERE! WE'LL HOLE UP FER
D NIGHT AN' RE PAINT D S-BAYS ON D TRUCK
AN' CHANGE D'L CENSE-PLATES --- YOUSSE
GUYS CAN BET SOME
SHUT-EYE, OKAY?

YEAH

HEY! WHO'S DE OLD GEEZER
WIT' DE ROPES?
A COPPER?

'BOUT TIME
YOUSE JOKS GOT
HERE!

HUH - A COPPER?
HO-HO!

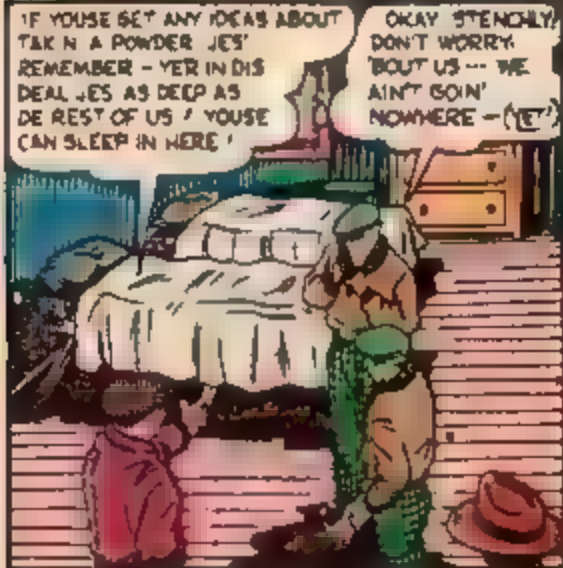


DIS HERE'S BLINKER DOWELL, McGOON!
USETA BE ONE O DA BOYS T'LL HE DONE A
STRETCH IN D' PEN --- WOULDN'T COME BACK
WIT' US --- WE FOUND 'IM WATCHMAN AT D'
CASE COMPNY WAREHOUSE AN' SNATCHED 'IM
WIT' D' BOODLE -- HE'S
GONNA TAKE D' RAP FER
US IF D' COPS GET WISE!



IF YOUSE GET ANY IDEAS ABOUT
TAK'N A POWDER JES'
REMEMBER - YER IN DIS
DEAL JES AS DEEP AS
DE REST OF US ' YOUSE
CAN SLEEP IN HERE!

OKAY STENCHY!
DON'T WORRY!
'BOUT US --- WE
AIN'T GOIN'
NOWHERE -- (YE?)



--- BUT - TWO HOURS LATER ---

COME ON, NAMORA -
THEY'RE ALL ASLEEP!
YOU WON'T NEED
YOUR DISGUISE --

BE CAREFUL, NAMOR -
I THINK BLINKER'S
GUARD IS STILL
AWAKE!



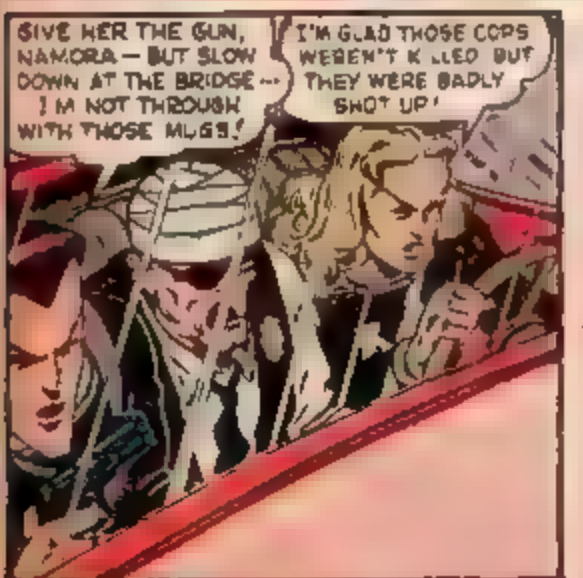
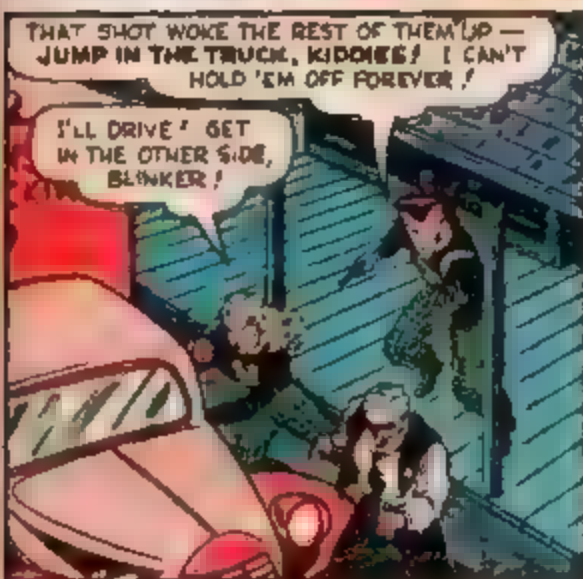
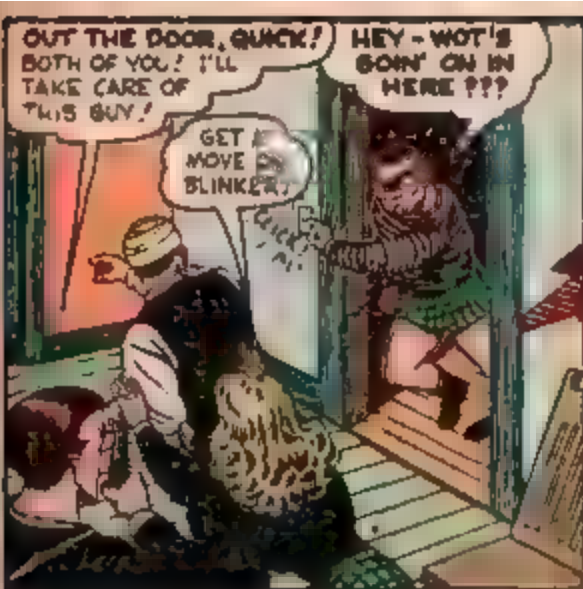
WE'LL SOON TAKE CARE OF THAT! GET THIS
JOKER'S KNIFE, NAMORA,
AND CUT BLINKER
FREE!



FOR PETE'S SAKE,
HURRY! WE
HAVEN'T GOT
ALL ---!

THANK THE LORD!
I DIDN'T THINK ---
WA T!
LISTEN!
SOMEONE'S COMING!





PARDON THE INTRUSION BOYS - BUT I'VE GOT A LITTLE JOB FOR YOU --- GET THIS CRATE ROLLING, AND I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE MUGS THAT KNOCKED OFF YOUR NEWYORK BUDDIES A COUPLE OF HOURS AGO!

WELL, I'LL BE ---!!!



OLD MANHART!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN! CALL HEADQUARTERS, CASEY!

TELL THEM TO SEND THE WAGON --- GIVE THEM DIRECTIONS AS WE GO ALONG --- THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!



MEANWHILE ---

I STILL DON'T SEE HOW YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND ME, MISS ---?

NAMORA --- NO TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS NOW, BLINKER --- HERE'S YOUR HOUSEBOAT!



RONNIE! RONNIE DOWELL! WHERE ARE YOU???

RONNIE! MY SON! MY BOY!

HUH?!



RONNIE!

POP!

OKAY, YOU TWO - BREAK IT UP! SAVE THE GLAD TEARS FOR LATER --- WE'VE GOT A DATE WITH YOUR "GUARDIAN ANGEL!"



THE WAY NAMOR --- IS THIS THE ---?

THERE THEY ARE, LADS! BL NO THEM WITH THE SPOTLIGHT --- AND LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOUR MARKSMANSHIP IS!



THREE MINUTES LATER

OKAY - OKAY, FLATFOOT!
WE'RE DONE!

THE WAGON'S HERE -
PICK UP YOUR FALS, AND
CLIMB ABOARD, YOU
RATS!



NAMORA KEEPS HER DATE ..

GOOD GIRL, NAMORA! LOOK
UP THE RECORD OF JAMES
STENCHLY, SERGEANT AND
SEND A SQUAD TO PICK UP ALL
THE EMPLOYEES OF THE TRANSIT
TRUCKING COMPANY!

INSIDE, YOU!
YOU'LL BE
BOOKED
LATER!



STENCHLY WAS COURT-MARTIALED AND CONVICTED
OF DEFECTION IN THE PACIFIC NAMOR - ESCAPED
FROM THE FEDERAL PENITENTIARY, BUT LATER
CAUGHT - THEN RELEASED ON PAROLE FOR GOOD
BEHAVIOR! HE'S FINISHED NOW, THOUGH!



WELL, LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE SOLVED A ROBBERY,
KIDNAPPING, AND MURDER, NAMOR - THANKS
TO YOUR LUCKY MUNCHES!

GOSH! MISTER SUB-MARINER -
HOW KIN I EVER T'ANK YOUSE FER
CLEARIN' ME
POP?



THE FOLLOWING DAY...

YOU CAN THANK US
BY GOING TO SCHOOL,
AND LEARNING TO BE
A GOOD, HONEST
CITIZEN,
RONNIE -

BUT, GEE -
HOW CAN I?
I GOTTA
WORK!

YOU'LL SEE,
RONNIE -
IN JUST A
MINUTE!



HOKEY
SMOKEY!
OH GOLLY!

GOSH!
SEE!
WOW!!!

IT'S ALL YOURS, RONNIE!
YOUR SIXTEEN DOLLARS
HELPED TO BUY IT - NOW
YOU CAN GO TO SCHOOL
AND MAKE MONEY TOO!

YOU AND YOUR
DAD ARE REAL
PARTNERS,
NOW



THE END

LET'S PLAY

DETECTIVE

2781

"NOT-SO-
PERFECT
ALIBI!"

MCCOY-GET DOWN TO THE
PARK ARMS...APT. 11A/
A WOMAN'S BEEN
MURDERED!

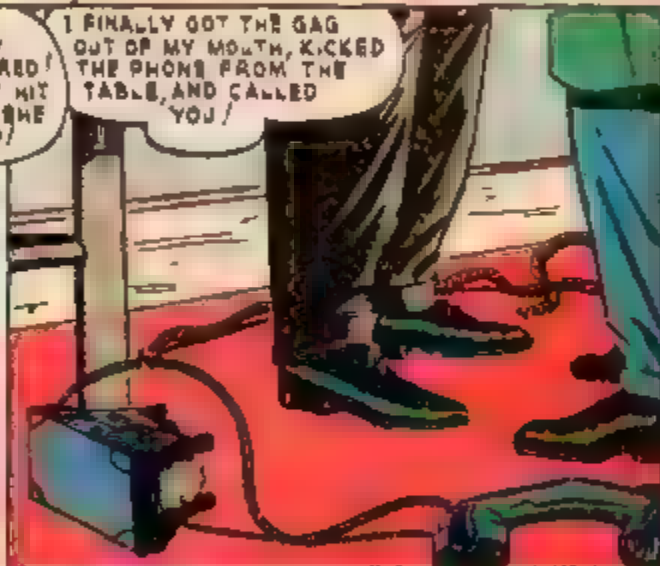
ON THE
DOUBLE,
CHIEF!

THANK GOODNESS
YOU ARRIVED!
QUICK!
UNTIE ME!



IT WAS ABOUT HALF HOUR AGO-THERE
WAS A KNOCK ON THE DOOR / LYDIA, MY
WIFE, ANSWERED / TWO MASKED MEN ENTERED!
LYDIA STARTED TO SCREAM WHEN THEY HIT
HER OVER THE HEAD! HEARD THEM SAY SHE
WAS DEAD! I WAS TIED UP AND GAGGED!
THEY LEFT WITH LYDIA'S JEWELS!

I FINALLY GOT THE GAG
OUT OF MY MOUTH, KICKED
THE PHONE FROM THE
TABLE, AND CALLED
YOU!



WHO ARE YOU TRYING TO KID? YOU
KILLED YOUR WIFE! I'M AFRAID
YOUR STORY WON'T DO! GET YOUR
COAT / WE'RE GOING TO
HEADQUARTERS!

LATER...

OKAY, YOU WIN! I KILLED
HER ALL RIGHT! WE HAD
AN ARGUMENT-I STRUCK
HER-SHE FELL, AND HER
HEAD HIT THE CORNER OF
THE TABLE / SHE WAS
DEAD! I HAD TO THINK
QUICK, AND THE STORY
I TOLD YOU WAS MY ALIBI!
BUT WHERE DID I
SLIP UP!

YOU SAID YOU CALLED
US WHILE YOU WERE
TIED! BUT YOU WERE
FORGOT THAT WE
ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE
TO USE A DIAL
PHONE IN YOUR
HANDS TIED
TIGHTLY BEHIND
YOUR BACK!



TURN PAGE UPSIDE DOWN FOR SOLUTION!

Reducing Specialist Says:



Thanks to the Spot Reducer, you can "lose" inches around the waist as the amazing Mary Martin, Long Island City, N. Y.

LOSE WEIGHT

where it shows most

REDUCE

most any part of the body with

SPOT REDUCER



Miss Nancy Mack, Bronx, N. Y., lost 15 lbs. from 130 to 115 lbs. in 4 weeks with the use of the Spot Reducer. I am glad I used it.

Like a magic wand, the "Spot Reducer" obeys your every wish. Mark any part of your body where it is loose and flabby, wherever you have extra weight and inches, the "Spot Reducer" can aid you in acquiring a youthful slender and graceful figure. The beauty of this scientifically designed Reducer is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. No exercises or strict diets. No steam baths, drugs or laxatives.

Thousands have lost weight this way—in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, buttocks, etc. The same method used by many stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The "Spot Reducer" can be used in your spare time in your own room. It breaks down fatty tissues, tones the muscles and flesh and the increased, awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat. Two weeks after using the "Spot Reducer" look in the mirror and see a more glamorous, better, firmer, slimmer figure that will delight you. You have nothing to lose but weight for the "Spot Reducer" is sold on a money-back guarantee.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE
With a 10-DAY FREE TRIAL

If the "Spot Reducer" doesn't do the wonders for you as it has for others, if you don't lose weight and inches where you want to lose it most, if you're not 100% delighted with the results, your money will be returned at once.



Miss Nancy Mack, Bronx, N. Y., lost 15 lbs. from 130 to 115 lbs. in 4 weeks with the use of the Spot Reducer. I am glad I used it.

MAIL COUPON NOW!

The "Spot Reducer" Co., Dept. MC-3
171 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey

Send me at once, for \$2 cash, check or money order, the "Spot Reducer" and your Famous Special Formula Body Massage Cream post-paid. If I am not 100% satisfied, my money will be refunded.

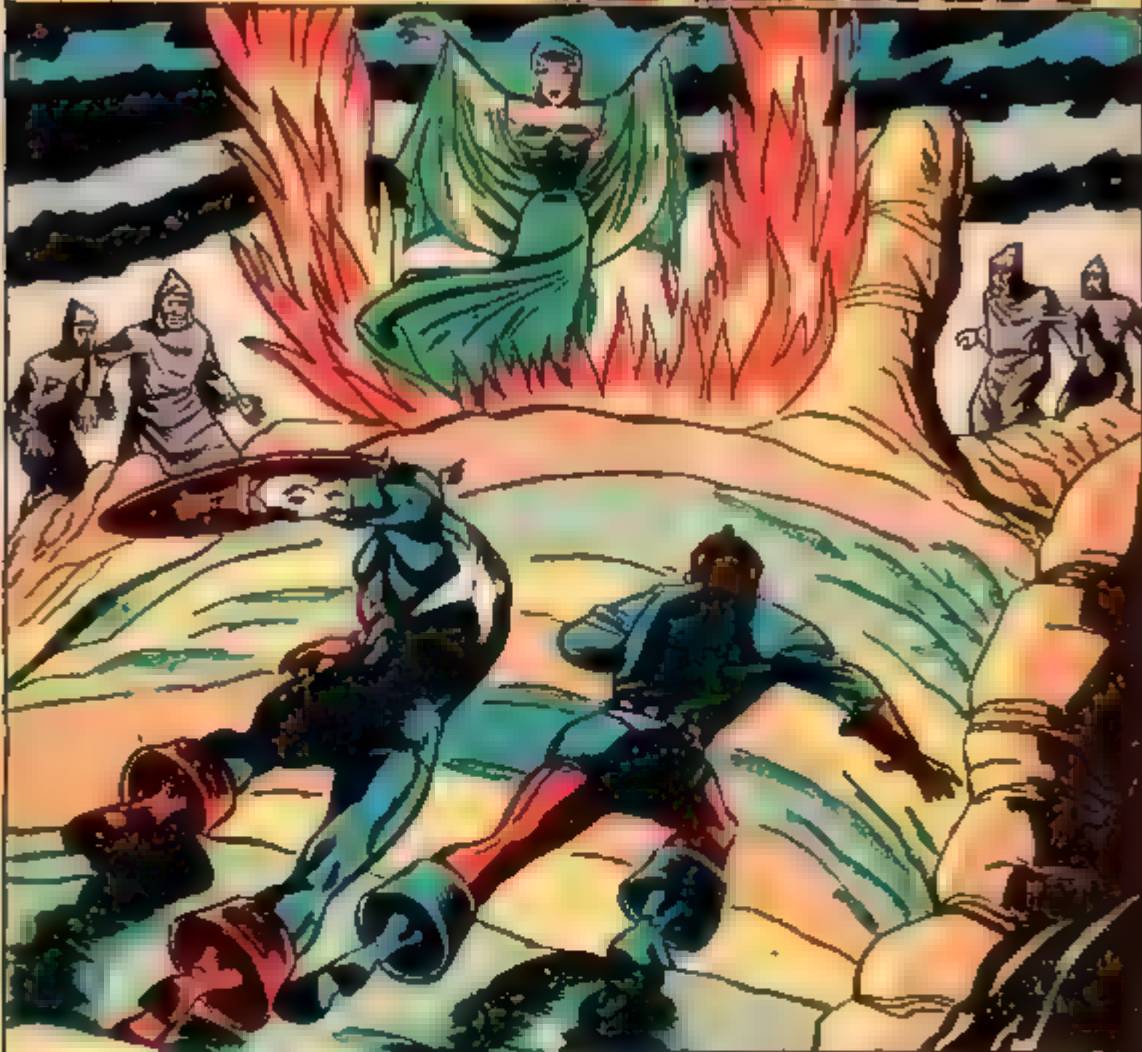
Name

Address

City State

A large size jar of Special Formula Body Massage Cream will be included FREE with your order for the "Spot Reducer."

CAPTAIN AMERICA



ONCE UPON A TIME, ON MOUNT OLYMPUS, THERE DWELT THE GREAT GOD JUPITER HURLING LIGHTNING BOLTS IN HIS WRATH! AND WITH HIM LIVED JUNO, QUEEN OF GODDESSES! IT ALL SOUNDS LIKE A MYTHICAL FAIRY TALE, DOESN'T IT? BUT IT IS NO FAIRY TALE TO CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY, AS JUPITER AND JUNO, REINCARNATED FROM THE DEAD PAST ONCE AGAIN STALK THE EARTH IN LEAGUE WITH MODERN CRIME! THREATENED BY FRIGHTFUL THUNDERBOLTS, THE CRIME-SMASHING PAIR BATTLES ITS WAY THROUGH FIRE, AS IT ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE STRANGE MYSTERY OF...

"The LIGHTNING CULT!"

IN THE APARTMENT OF STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY BARNES.

NO REST FOR A WEARY SCHOOL TEACHER, KID! I'LL HAVE TO CORRECT THESE TEST PAPERS!

DON'T MIND ME, STEVE! I'LL JUST READ THROUGH THE EVENING PAPER AND SEE WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD!



GOSH STEVE! THOSE MYSTERIOUS FIRES ARE STILL GOING ON! WONDER WHO THE FIREBUG IS?

SERIES OF FIRES THROUGH CITY CONTINUES

OLYMPUS CLAY CEREMONIES OUTSIDE



HOLY SMOKE, STEVE- LOOK! ANOTHER FIRE DOWN THE STREET!



A FLASHING CHARGE, AND...

THE FIREBUG IS. THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO NAB HIM!

COME ON KID! WHOEVER THE FIREBUG IS, THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO NAB HIM!



MEANWHILE, TWO STRANGE FIGURES STAND BEFORE THE BURNING BUILDING, AND...

ONE MORE LIGHTNING BOLT WILL RAISE THE FIRE TO FULL FURY, JUP-TER!

YES JUNO!

THE FIRE TO FULL FURY, JUP-TER!



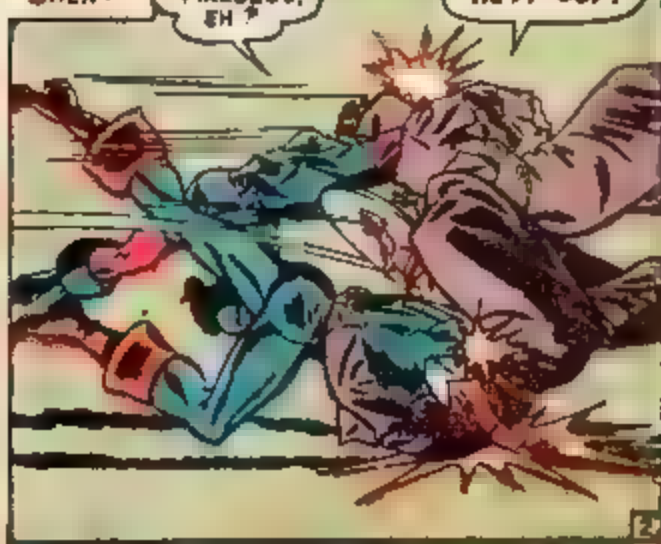
NOW IS THE TIME TO GO IN BEFORE FIREMEN AND POLICE ARRIVE!



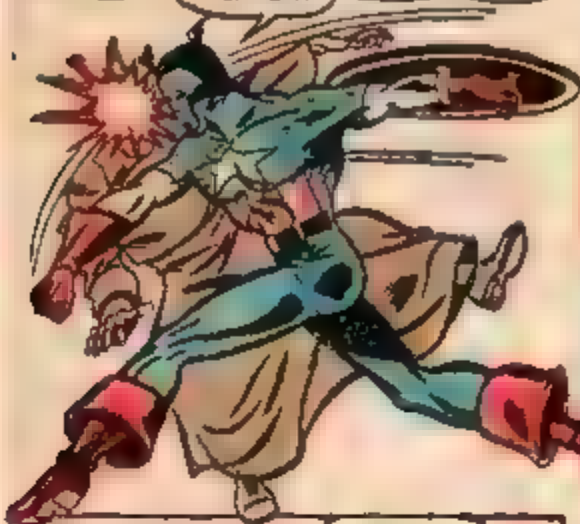
WHEN!

FIREBUGS, EH?

HEY! OOF!



I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE IDEA OF THE
QUEER SET-UP IS, BUT WE'LL ASK QUESTIONS
LATER!



WOW! LOOK AT
THE COSTUMES
ON THESE TWO,
GOING TO A
MASQUERADE?

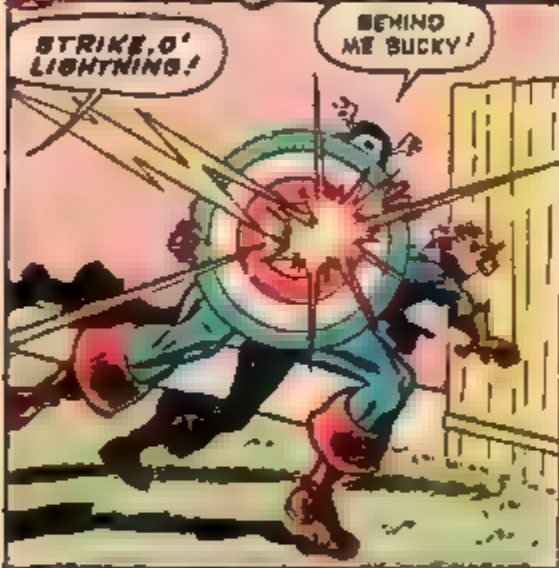
FOOLS! I
AM THE
INCARNATION
OF JUPITER,
GOD OF
LIGHTN'G!

AND I
AM JUNO,
GODDESS
OF
FLAME!



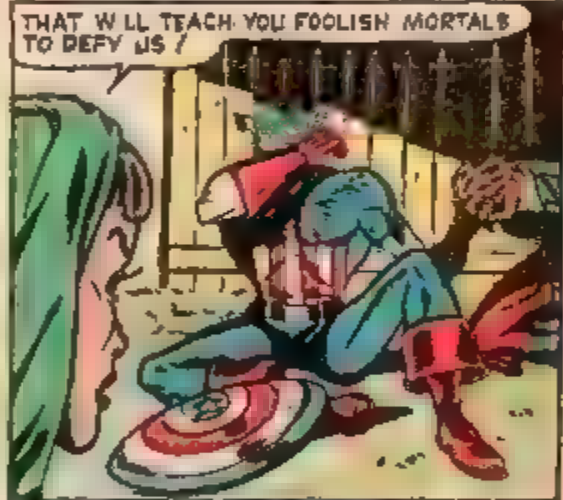
STRIKE O'
LIGHTNING!

BEHIND
ME BUCKY!



DESPITE THE PROTECTION OF CAP'S SHIELD,
THE WITHERING BLAST SENDS THEM REELING.

THAT WILL TEACH YOU FOOLISH MORTALS
TO DEFY US!



BUT COME! WHY BOTHER WITH THEM? THEY
CANNOT PURSUE US INTO THE FLAMES!

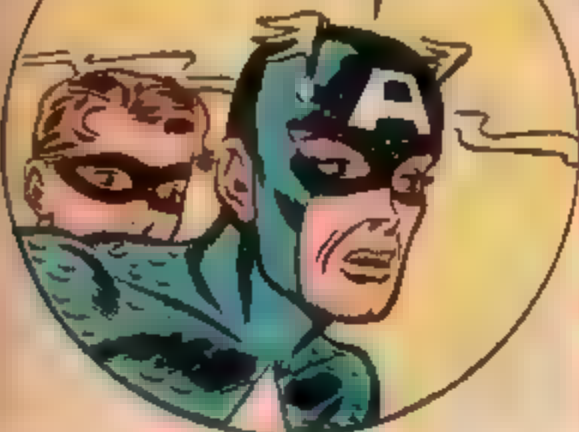


CAP! LOOK! THEY'RE WALKING
RIGHT INTO THE FLAMES!



IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
IT MUST BE
MY EYES!

I SAW THE SAME THING.
BUCKY! THEY MARCHED
RIGHT INTO THE BURNING
BUILDING IGNORING THE
FLAMES!



BACK BUCKY! WE CAN'T FOLLOW THEM
INTO THAT BLAZING INFERNO! WE'LL HAVE
TO WAIT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO
CONTROL THE BLAZE BEFORE WE CAN
SOLVE THE MYSTERY!



HOURS LATER, WHEN THE FIREMEN HAD
DONE THEIR WORK...

LUCKILY IT WAS N OHT, AND
THE PLACE WAS EMPTY! BUT
STILL WE SHOULD FIND BODIES!

YEAH! OF
JUPITER,
JUNO AND
THEIR TWO
STOOGES!



BUT AFTER A DILIGENT SEARCH...

NO BODIES! THEN
THEY GOT OUT OF
THE FIRE ALIVE!

HOLY CATS! YET
THIS BIG STEEL
SAFE WAS BURNED
AND WRECKED!



HMM! IN EACH OF THESE
PREVIOUS FIRES A SAFE LIKE
THIS WAS FOUND WRECKED
AND EMPTY! BUT LOOK,
BUCKY—THIS SAFE WAS
BLOWN OPEN AND THE
MONEY TAKEN OUT!

I'M BEGINNING TO SEE THE
LIGHT! THE FIRES ARE JUST
A COVER-UP FOR THE
ROBBERIES! WHAT'S
EASIER THAN ROBBING
A SAFE WHILE FIRE
KEEPS EVERYBODY
AWAY?

BOY THAT'S
A NEW ONE!

BUT HOW DID
JUPITER
AND JUNO
AND THEIR
MEN KEEP
FROM
BURNING?

THEY CLAIM
TO BE
REINCARNATED
ANCIENT GODS!
I WONDER?



THE NEXT DAY STEVE CONSULTS AN ENCYCLOPEDIA.

"JUPITER, ANCIENT ROMAN GOD WHO HURLED LIGHTNING BOLTS! JUNO, ANCIENT GODDESS! BOTH DWELLING ON MOUNT OLYMPUS!"

OLYMPUS!



I'VE GOT IT! I SAW THAT NAME YESTERDAY IN THE PAPERS! THERE'S AN OLYMPUS CULT HOLDING CEREMONIES OUTSIDE OF TOWN!

HMM! WE'LL BE THERE, Y'ON GHT, BUCKY!



THAT NIGHT...

THERE'S THE CEREMONY TAKING PLACE!

AND JUPITER AND JUNO LEADING IT!



HEY, YOU! SCRAM! NO SNOOPING!

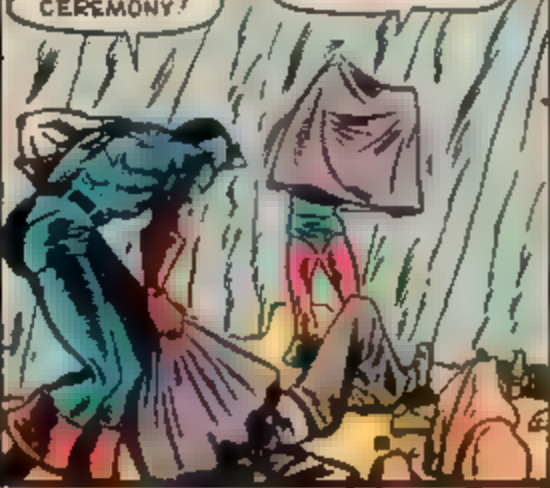


WE BEG TO DIFFER!



WE'LL PUT ON THEIR COSTUMES, BUCKY, AND JOIN THE CEREMONY!

RIGHT, CAP! WE'LL GET AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS GAME!



A WEIRD CEREMONY BEGINS!

LIGHTNING, STRIKE! THE RING BURNS! ENTER THE CAVE OF OLYMPUS, AND DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THE FLAME!



HOLY MACKEREL! THEY'RE
GOING THROUGH THE
BURNING RINGS!

WE'VE GOT TO DO
IT TOO, KID! KEEP
YOUR NERVE!



I DON'T FEEL
A THING!

I THOUGHT SO!



YOU SEE BUCKY—THESE OUTFITS ARE MADE
OF ASBESTOS! THAT'S WHY THE FLAMES
DIDN'T TOUCH US!



WRONG, CAPTAIN AMERICA! THOSE SUITS
ARE MADE OF SOMETHING BETTER THAN
ASBESTOS! IT'S A FIRE-PROOF PLASTIC!

WE'RE EXPOSED!



SURE FOOLS!
DON'T YOU
THINK WE
CAN COUNT?
WE KNEW
THERE WERE
TWO EXTRA
CULTISTS!

OKAY WE'RE TRAPPED!
SO HOW ABOUT
UNMASKING
YOURSELVES? YOU
TWO AREN'T
ANCIENT GODS!



YOU'RE RIGHT—WE'RE ARSON
ANDY AND ANN! WE GOT TEN
YEARS FOR ARSON ONCE!
BUT AFTER GETTING OUT
OF STIR WE DECIDED TO
PLAY SMART!



SO YOU USED ARSON AS
A COVER-UP FOR ROBBING
SAVES! THE VICTIMS
THOUGHT THEIR MONEY
BURNED! AND THIS
CULT STUFF WAS JUST
A WAY OF TRAINING
YOUR MEN TO GO
THROUGH FIRE!



RIGHT WISE-OLY! BUT THERE'S ONE THING YOU HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT—MY LIGHTNING BOLTS! NOW YOU BOTH GET IT—FULL BLAST!

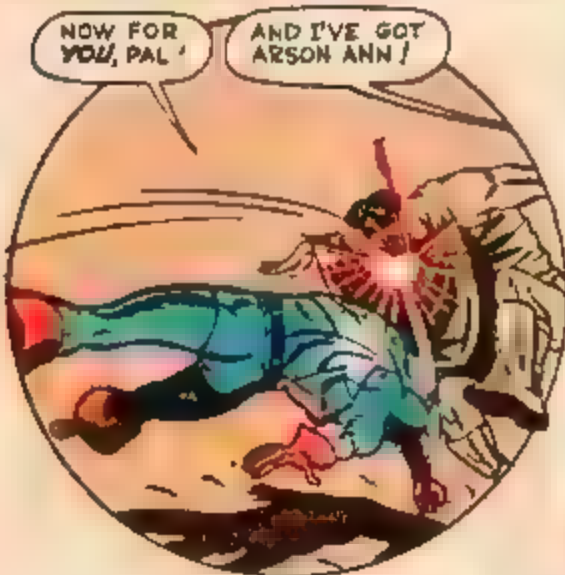


YOU MEAN YOUR FLUNKIES GET IT! DOWN, BUCKY!



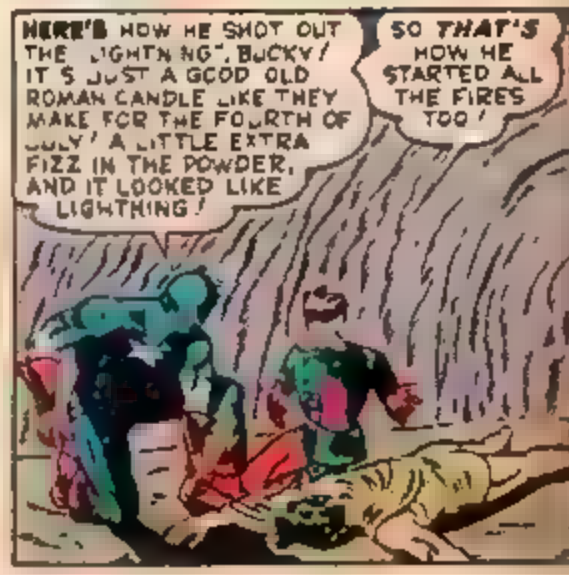
NOW FOR YOU, PAL!

AND I'VE GOT ARSON ANN!



HERE'S HOW HE SHOT OUT THE "LIGHTNING", BUCKY! IT'S JUST A GOOD OLD ROMAN CANDLE LIKE THEY MAKE FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY! A LITTLE EXTRA FIZZ IN THE POWDER, AND IT LOOKED LIKE LIGHTNING!

SO THAT'S HOW HE STARTED ALL THE FIRES TOO!

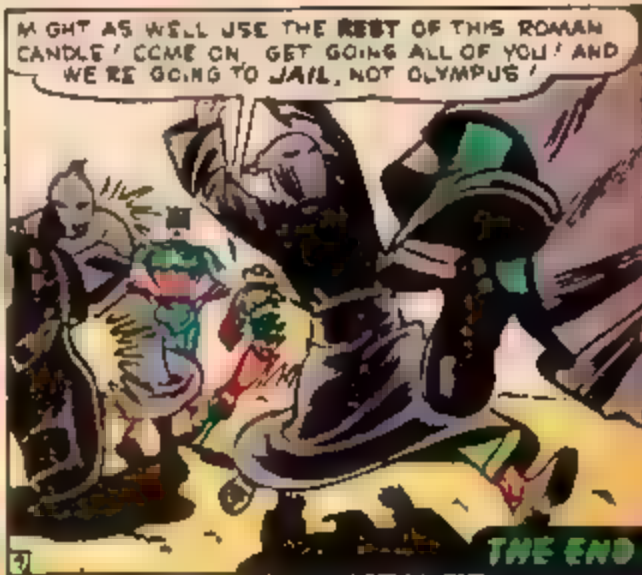


BUT HOW DID THEY GET THE STOLEN MONEY OUT OF THE BURNING BUILDING?

SIMPLE ENOUGH! THEY STUFFED IT IN FIRE-PROOF, PLASTIC SACKS!



MIGHT AS WELL USE THE REST OF THIS ROMAN CANDLE! COME ON, GET GOING ALL OF YOU! AND WE'RE GOING TO JAIL, NOT OLYMPUS!



THE END

BAD SKIN?

Stop Worrying About Pimples, Blackheads
and Other Externally Caused Skin Troubles

Try Skin Doctor's Amazing Simple Directions

and Be Thrilled with the Difference—

Often So Much

CLEARER IN JUST ONE SHORT WEEK



Have you ever stopped to realize that the leading screen stars whom you admire, well as the beautiful models who have lovely, soft white skin were all born

with clear skin? They were not born with perfect skin. They were born with skin troubles just like you. But they used the Skin Doctor's Simple Rules and their skin became clear and soft. So can yours.

Simple Rules

1. Wash your face with warm water and soap every day.

2. Use the Skin Doctor's Medicated Skin Cream every day.

3. Avoid all cosmetics and make-up.

4. Avoid all sunbathing and tanning.

5. Avoid all alcohol and spicy food.

6. Avoid all stress and worry.

7. Avoid all colds and flu.

8. Avoid all dry skin.

9. Avoid all itching.

10. Avoid all scratching.

11. Avoid all picking.

of pimples, blackheads or other blemishes. When you neglect your skin by not giving it the necessary care, you leave yourself wide open to externally caused skin troubles. Yet proper attention

will clear your skin and save you the embarrassment of an ugly face.

to hide your face.



The double Viderm treatment is a lot of amazing success, and costs you only a few cents daily. This treatment con-

verts the special Viderm cream into a skin medicine.

Simply apply the Viderm Fortified Medicated Skin Cream. You rub the

five covering for the surface of your skin.

wonder for so many cases of external skin troubles, what may help you, too—in fact, your money will be refunded

if it doesn't show up in ten days. The Skin Doctor's Simple Rules are so easy to follow that you can be clear in ten days or less.

Every day use your skin is smoother and clearer. Then use it only once a week to remove stale make-up and dirt specks that affect your pores, as well as to avoid all healing external irritations.

and pimples.

The doctor's directions are on the way to you. Be sure to wash your face as often as necessary. First use warm water, then cleanse with water as cold as you can stand it in order to freshen, stimulate and help close your pores. After you receive everything, read your directions carefully. Then go right to it. Let these two fine formulas help your dreams of a beautiful skin come true.

Just mail your name and address to: Be ty Memphis, care of the New York Skin Laboratory, 206 Division Street, Dept 369 New York 2, N. Y. By return

mail you will receive two bottles of Viderm cream and both jars packed in a safety-

box are plus postage. If you wish you can save the postage fee by mailing the two dollars with your letter. If you are in any way dissatisfied, your money will be cheerfully refunded. To give you an idea of how fully tested and proven

Viderm double treatment is it may be said that over two hundred and twelve thousand women have ordered it on my recommendation. If you could only see the thousands of happy, grateful women who come to me as a result

of the treatment can be seen. And think of it—the treatment must work for you, or it doesn't cost you a cent.





TOO LATE

SLIM lay on his bunk in his cell, clasped his hands behind his head, and gazed reflectively at the ceiling. An hour until lights out.

Five years it had taken him. Five years of back breaking work in his few moments of spare time. First he stole a spoon, then a knife . . . and he worked carefully. The stone came out easily, but it took him a long time to figure out what to do with the dirt. He finally decided to carry it in his pocket a spoonful at a time and dump it in the furnace when the guards were not looking.

As he worked, the first spoon and knife were out and he stole another set . . . and another . . . and now after five years it was over. Finished. He turned his head and looked across the cell, down towards the floor, under the other empty bunk—that was where the pivoting stone was carefully concealed. When the right night came he would make the break. The stone would swing inward, and he would crawl into the tunnel. From there to the old sewer, and then down to the river. And across to freedom. He sighed.

Then he heard the guards coming down the hall. They stopped at his cell door. The door clanged open, and a man was pushed roughly inside.

Slim lifted himself on one elbow and looked at the man. Immediately, he knew that he didn't like him. He was big—

almost six feet tall . . . and fat . . . and his mean little eyes squinted under shaggy, black eyebrows. His cheeks were flabby and hung loosely on his face. He had a nasty look about him that Slim didn't like.

"Whataa matter?" the man growled. "Aintcha never seen me before? My name's Turk . . . I been in all the papers lately. 'Killer' Turk, they call me."

"We don't get no papers in here," Slim rasped. "Ya might as well forget all that now."

"Yeah? Well, I ain't stayin' in here. There ain't no jail big or strong enough to hold me. I'm gettin' outa here!"

That was when Slim started to hate Turk. And the feeling was mutual. They both hated each other with a grim intensity that was a little ridiculous . . . especially since they were cell mates.

Slim felt that Turk had no right to intrude on his little party. Now he would have to bide his time and wait until he could make the break without Turk. Slim didn't trust him, because a man who turned in another convict for an attempted break was certain to get his own time slashed — maybe even a parole out of the deal. It wasn't fair of Turk to think he could escape so soon . . . not when it had taken Slim five long years to get even this far . . .

So Slim lay on his bunk night after night, waiting for the right time. And his hatred of Turk

grew and grew until finally he felt that he could bear it no longer. Then one night the situation came to a breaking point.

Slim came back to the cell block later than usual. He had been on a special detail in the furnace room. When the door shut behind him and he turned to face Turk, he knew something was wrong.

Turk was sitting on his bunk, smoking a cigarette . . . a sly smile on his fast, pasty face. He stood up, his smile hardening. "Peetty slick, aincha? All ready for a break, and ya wasn't gonna tell me, was ya?" Turk advanced toward Slim, his mouth twisted in a snarl, his eyes gleaming hatred.

"Wait a minute, Turk," Slim said, crouching back against the wall.

"'Wait a minute!' For what! I gave the cell a goin' over while you was gone, an' I accidentally found that little stone door of yours. The one you was gonna use to make a break without tellin' me. How come you didn't gimme an in? You knew how bad I wanted to get out!"

Turk reached forward and grabbed Slim by the collar of his rough uniform and pulled him close. He shook him. Then he threw Slim against the wall. Slim hit, and slumped down, his eyes on Turk's face. Hatred and terror were there as he watched the bigger man.

"I'm goin' with ya when ya go!" Turked snarled. "Don't

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forget it. And in case ya do," he reached back and pulled a knife from beneath his mattress and waved it close under Slim's nose.

Slim nodded, his eyes wide at sight of the knife. "Okay, Turk, okay. You can go. When the right time comes, we'll go together. Sure. Put the knife away . . ."

Turk moved the knife. "When's it gonna be? Soon? I'm gettin' tired of this place an' I crave fresh air!"

"It'll be soon, Turk, soon. The night's gotta be just right . . . rain . . . storm . . . you know."

"Okay, but don't forget," Turk growled.

No, I won't forget, Slim thought as he lay on the bunk. He smiled to himself. A slow deadly sort of smile. *It'll have to be soon. I can't take a chance on Turk any longer. He might spill the works.*

Two nights later it rained. Turk was on edge, nervous, when Slim got to the cell.

"This is it, ain't it?" Turk asked anxiously. "This is what we been waitin' for. Tonight's the night, ain't it?"

"Yeah," Slim said, "tonight's the night. We'll wait an hour or two until everybody settles down . . . then we'll go."

They sat there, on opposite sides of the cell, waiting. Turk was watching Slim intently. Slim smiled, looking at the silhouette of the bigger man. This was it. Slim stood up.

"Let's go," he said.

Turk threw his cigarette on the floor and ground it out under his heel. "Okay."

Slim crossed the cell, knelt under Turk's bunk and pushed. The stone block swung easily. Slim stood back for Turk to go through.

"Nothin' doin'," Turk growled, "you first. I ain't gettin' in there an' havin' you call for help. You first." He motioned with his hand and Slim saw a glint as the knife moved toward him.

"Sure, Turk," Slim smiled to himself as he slid into the nar-

row opening. He moved a few feet and waited for Turk to force his big body through. Finally he made it, and lay in the tunnel, panting.

"Swing the block shut," Slim said.

Then, as Turk pushed the stone back into place, Slim began to crawl rapidly, squirming along the damp, raw earth. He could hear Turk behind him. In a few moments they reached the sewer that led into the river. Slim broke through into the round pipe and felt himself in water. Turk followed him and crawled along.

Then they came to a turn and Slim wriggled through quickly and moved on for about ten feet. He could hear Turk gasp as he forced his way. There was a curse . . . a groan . . . and silence for a moment. Then, "Hey, Slim . . ."

But Slim was on his way, crawling rapidly in the foul smelling water. He couldn't hear Turk any longer...the gurgling of the water drowned his calls. He broke into the open along the river bank, outside the walls . . .

Three hours later the river patrol picked up Slim as he was crossing the river, but he wasn't too unhappy. There'd be other times he could make his break.

He thought of Turk and smiled to himself. That bend in the sewer was a ninety degree turn, and the sewer from there on was only three feet in diameter. Turk was almost four feet thick across the middle. He could crawl along slowly in a straight line all right, but when he tried to make that turn . . .

Slim had figured on that all along. He alone knew of the turn in the sewer, but nobody could ever prove he knew about it. He was safe, absolutely safe.

And the backwash of the river tide would be coming up the sewer soon. Turk was caught in the bend—he couldn't go forward, and he couldn't move back. It would be too late when they found him . . . much too late . . .

THE END 31-2555

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 3, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1900

of Marvel Mystery Comics, published Quarterly at Meriden, Conn. for October, 1947.

State of New York |
County of New York |

Before me a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Martin Goodman who having been duly sworn according to law, depose and says that he is the Business Manager of the Marvel Mystery Comics and that he following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management and of the circulation of the publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 3, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1900, embodied in section 371 Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor or managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Marvel Comics, Inc. 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. Editor, Stan Lee, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. Managing Editor, Stan Lee, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. Business Manager, Martin Goodman, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock; if not owned by a corporation, its name and address of the individual owners must be given; if owned by a firm, company or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member must be given.)

Marvel Comics, Inc. 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y. Martin Goodman, 350 5th Avenue New York 1, N. Y. Stan Lee, 350 5th Avenue, New York 1, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also to state where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting is given also; but he said no paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, partnership or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds or other securities than as so stated by him.

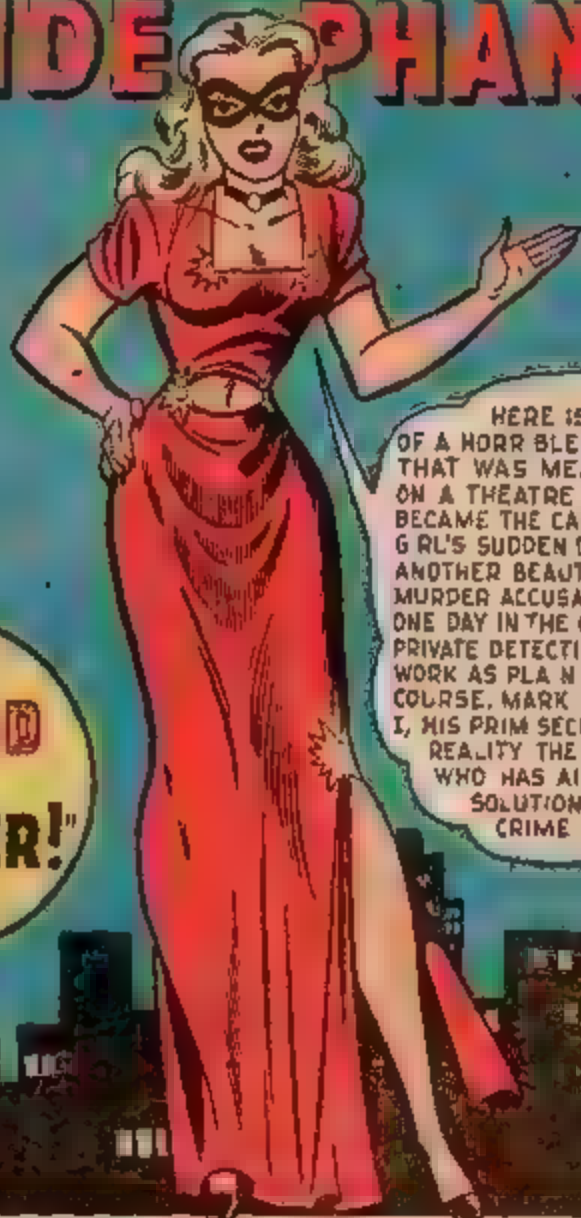
5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is: This information is required from daily publications only.

Witness: MARTIN GOODMAN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of September 1947.

(SEAL) SYLVIA PITCHER.
(My commission expires March 30, 1948.)

BLONDE PHANTOM



**"STAGED
FOR
MURDER!"**

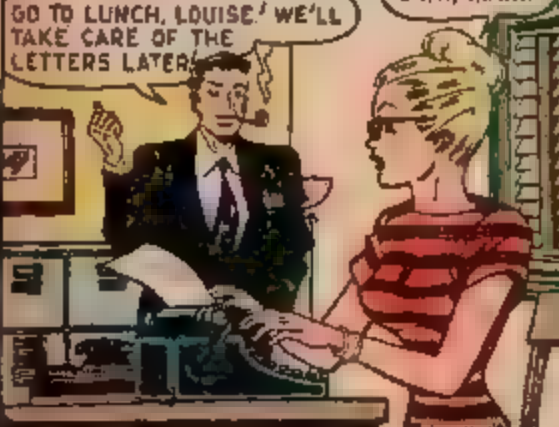
HERE IS A STORY
OF A HORRIBLE MURDER PLOT
THAT WAS MEANT TO TAKE PLACE
ON A THEATRE STAGE, BUT INSTEAD
BECAME THE CAUSE OF A BEAUTIFUL
GIRL'S SUDDEN DEATH, AND INVOLVED
ANOTHER BEAUTY IN A SENSATIONAL
MURDER ACCUSATION! IT ALL STARTED
ONE DAY IN THE OFFICE OF MARK MASON,
PRIVATE DETECTIVE, FOR WHOM I
WORK AS PLAIN LOUISE GRANT. OF
COURSE, MARK NEVER DREAMS THAT
I, HIS PRIM SECRETARY, AM IN
REALITY THE **BLONDE PHANTOM**
WHO HAS AIDED HIM IN THE
SOLUTION OF MANY
CRIME CASES!

2-45

NOON TIME, IN THE OFFICE OF MARK MASON,
PRIVATE DETECTIVE...

GO TO LUNCH, LOUISE! WE'LL
TAKE CARE OF THE
LETTERS LATER!

OKAY, MARK!



SOON

HMMM, A NEW RESTAURANT!
THINK I'LL TRY IT OUT FOR
LUNCH!



RESTAURANT 36 HAS A DISTINCTIVE REPUTATION- THE CHOICEST FOOD, THE RICHEST GOSSIP AND PROBABLY THE WORLD'S MOST OUTRAGEOUS PRICES...

JUST ONE MISS? PLEASE ER, YES

OH DEAR- THESE PRICES

VINCENT WE *MUST* GET MILLICENT OUT OF THE WAY! WHAT'S MORE, THE MURDER IS ALL WRONG!

THE IMPORTANT THING IS ESTABLISHING AN ALIBI FOR THE KILLER!

NOTHING OF THE SORT!

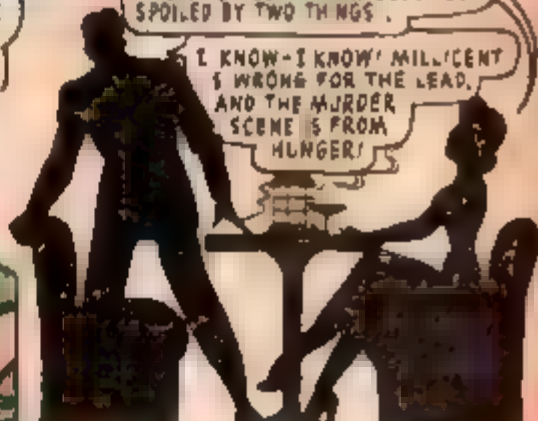


THAT'S THE TROUBLE! YOU SIMPLY DON'T UNDERSTAND ART OR CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGY-OR ME!

BUT, DARLING, BE REASONABLE! WE'VE WRITTEN A GOOD PLAY...

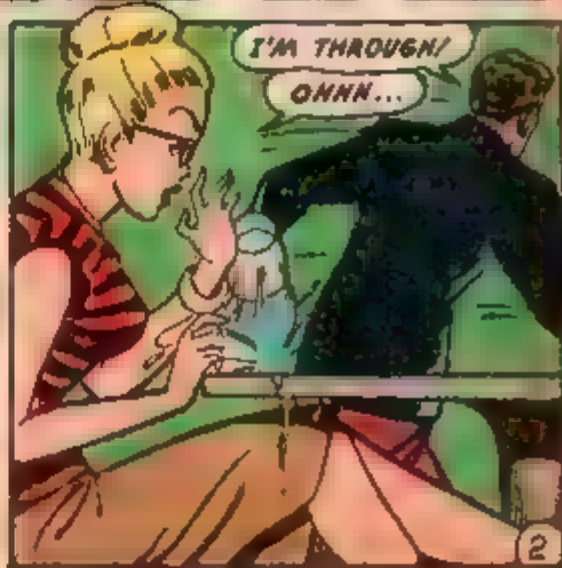
IT'S A BRILLIANT TRAGEDY-BUT SPOILED BY TWO THINGS.

I KNOW-I KNOW! MILLICENT IS WRONG FOR THE LEAD, AND THE MURDER SCENE IS FROM HUNGER!



SUPPOSE YOU FIGURE IT OUT... ANOTHER MURDER AND A WAY TO GET MILLICENT OUT-AND STILL KEEP HER MONEY IN THE PRODUCTION!

VINCENT PLEASE!



I'M THROUGH!

OHNN...



I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MISS!

HERE LET ME HELP!

AT THAT I'M LUCKY THE CLEANING BILL WON'T BE NEARLY AS EXPENSIVE AS LUNCH AT "86"!

A FEW MINUTES LATER IN THE POWDER ROOM...

I'M SORRY ABOUT VINCENT! HE'S... WELL, THE TEMPERAMENTAL PLAYWRIGHT!

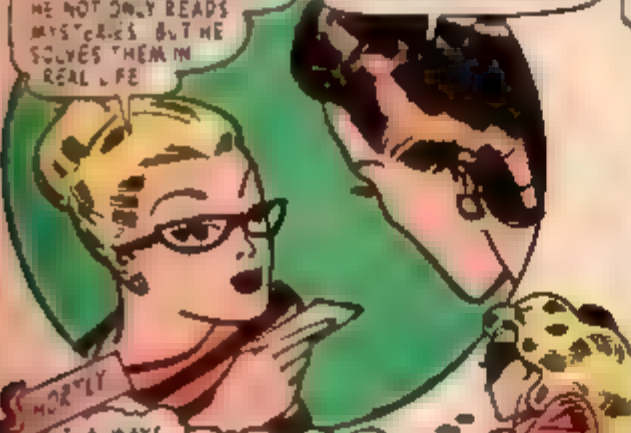
JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME, YOUR VINCENT IS A LIFESAVER! AND SINCE ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES ANOTHER...

HERE'S THE CARD OF MY BOSS PRYATE DETECTIVE MARK MASON HE NOT ONLY READS MYSTORIES BUT HE SOLVES THEM IN REAL LIFE

JUST WHAT THE PLAY NEEDS- THE AUTHENTIC TOUCH BY ~~THE TITANIC~~ ~~IN MASON~~

HE'S IN THE OFFICE RIGHT NOW! WISH I COULD INTRODUCE YOU, BUT I DO HAVE AN ERRAND TO RUN

SEE YOU LATER PERHAPS - WITH AT LEAST ONE OF OUR THEATRICAL PROBLEMS SOLVED!



WORTHY I ALWAYS DID WANT TO TRY MY HAND AT PLOTTING A WHODUNNET PLAY... ~~THE~~ ~~THE~~ PHANTOM, OF COURSE!

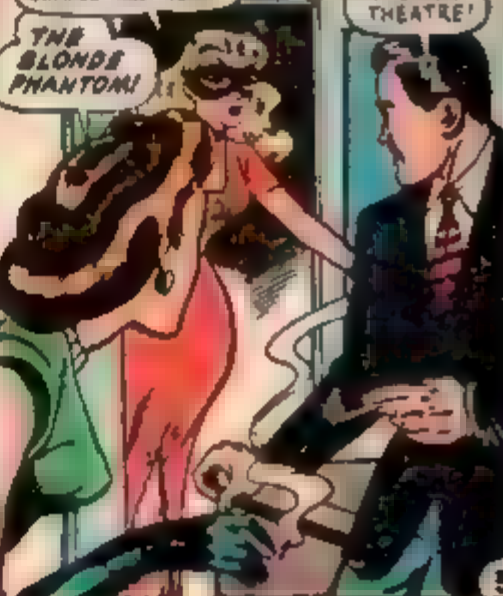
YOU'RE RIGHT, MISS SCOTT! THE MURDER, YOU'RE USING IS TOO COMPLICATED!

MAR. MASON



FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD, I THINK SO TOO. THE PLAY NEEDS SOMETHING SIMPLE AND NEAT!

WELL, WELL! THIS IS JACK FOR THE AMERICAN THEATRE!



THE BLONDE PHANTOM!

HERE'S MY IDEA... THE KILLER IS A GUEST AT A HOUSE PARTY! HE HATES THE HOSTESS, AND SEVERAL PEOPLE KNOW HE HATES HER, AND YET WAITING HIS CHANCE HE GETS HER ALONE IN THE LIBRARY

HE SHOOTS THE HOSTESS WITH A STOLEN AUTOMATIC / THE GUN IS SILENCED

BUT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE THAT HE'LL HAVE TO HAVE AN AIRTIGHT ALIBI TO STAY OUT OF THE CHAIR!

HE DOES HAVE AN ALIBI - A RECORDING OF THE WOMAN'S VOICE! AT THE END OF THE RECORD COMES THE SOUND OF A SHOT! AND BY THE TIME

THE VICTIM'S VOICE REACHES THE PEAK OF ANGER AND THE SHOT IS HEARD, THE KILLER IS SEEN WITH THE REST OF THE GUESTS!

IT FITS PERFECTLY! ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS REWRITE ONE SCENE! IT'S WONDERFUL!

PUT THE MONEY AWAY MISS SCOTT! BLONDE PHANTOM AND I ARE BOTH HAVING OUR SHARE OF THE KIBITZING ON THE PLOT!

YOU MIGHT SEND US A PAIR OF TICKETS THOUGH WHEN THE SHOW OPENS

IT'LL OPEN AND FLOP IF I DON'T TALK THE GLAMOROUS AND DUMB MILL CENT GILES OUT OF PLAYING THE LEAD!

BOTH VINCENT AND I KNOW SHE CAN'T ACT, BLONDE PHANTOM! BUT I'M AFRAID VINCENT HAS GOTTEN TO BE RATHER FOND OF HER!

OF HER, OR HER MONEY?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW! AS LONG AS I'VE WORKED AND WRITTEN WITH H.M. I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND WHAT MAKES HIM TICK!

YOU LIKE H.M. PRETTY WELL YOURSELF, DON'T YOU?

I GUESS I DO! WE'VE HAD A TOUGH TIME TOGETHER, CLIMBING UP THE LADDER TOWARD WRITING FAME!

COME ON, THEN! LET'S TRY IT! WE'LL BOTH TALK TO GLAMOR GIRL, GILES!

AND SOON

REALLY, MISS SCOTT! ISN'T THIS A BIT OF FEMALE JEALOUSY? FIRST, YOU WANT TO SPOIL VINCENT'S PLAY WITH A RIDICULOUS SCENE OF YOUR OWN

AND NOW, I WANT A FIRST-RATE ACTRESS TO PLAY THE LEAD! YOU BET I DO!

PERHAPS A SUPPORTING ROLE MIGHT BE A LITTLE BETTER MISS GILES—UNTIL YOU'VE HAD SOME STAGE EXPERIENCE!

REALLY! I MUST ASK YOU TO LEAVE!

OH! MY RUBY EARRING—IT'S GONE! SEARCH THEM VINCENT!

COME NOW, MILLICENT! NONE OF MY FRIENDS ARE THIEVES... I'LL HELP YOU LOOK FOR IT!

NICE GIRL!

SHE MAKES ME FURIOUS, I COULD KILL HER!

I WISH I COULD HELP, MISS SCOTT—SOME WAY BESIDES PLOTTING A MURDER FOR A PLAY!

I'LL THINK OF SOMETHING, BLONDE PHANTOM! I'VE GOT TO!

THE
FOLLOWING
DAY,
AT THE
"MOROCCO",
WHERE
"MURDER
ON
RECORD"
HAS
ALREADY
GONE
INTO
REHEARSAL...

IT'S TOO LATE, JACKIE..
MILLICENT PLAYS THE
LEAD, AND THE MURDER
SCENE STAYS THE WAY
IT WAS ORIGINALLY
WRITTEN!

THEN WE'RE
BOTH SUNK, Y'NCE,
UNLESS GLAMOR
GIRL, SUDDENLY
DIES!

IT WAS A MISTAKE, BILL—A MAN OF MY TALENTS
NEVER SHOULD HAVE TEAMED WITH
A FEMALE WRITER!

LET'S GET TO WORK AND
HOPE THAT OTHER
FEMALE MISTAKE OF YOURS
LEARNS SOMETHING
FROM THE RECORD
OF HER OWN VOICE!

ALL RIGHT, MILLICENT
BEGIN WITH THE BIG
SCENE, AND TALK
INTO THE MIKE!

MY EARRING!
WHAT'S IT DOING ON
THIS RECORDING
MACHINE!

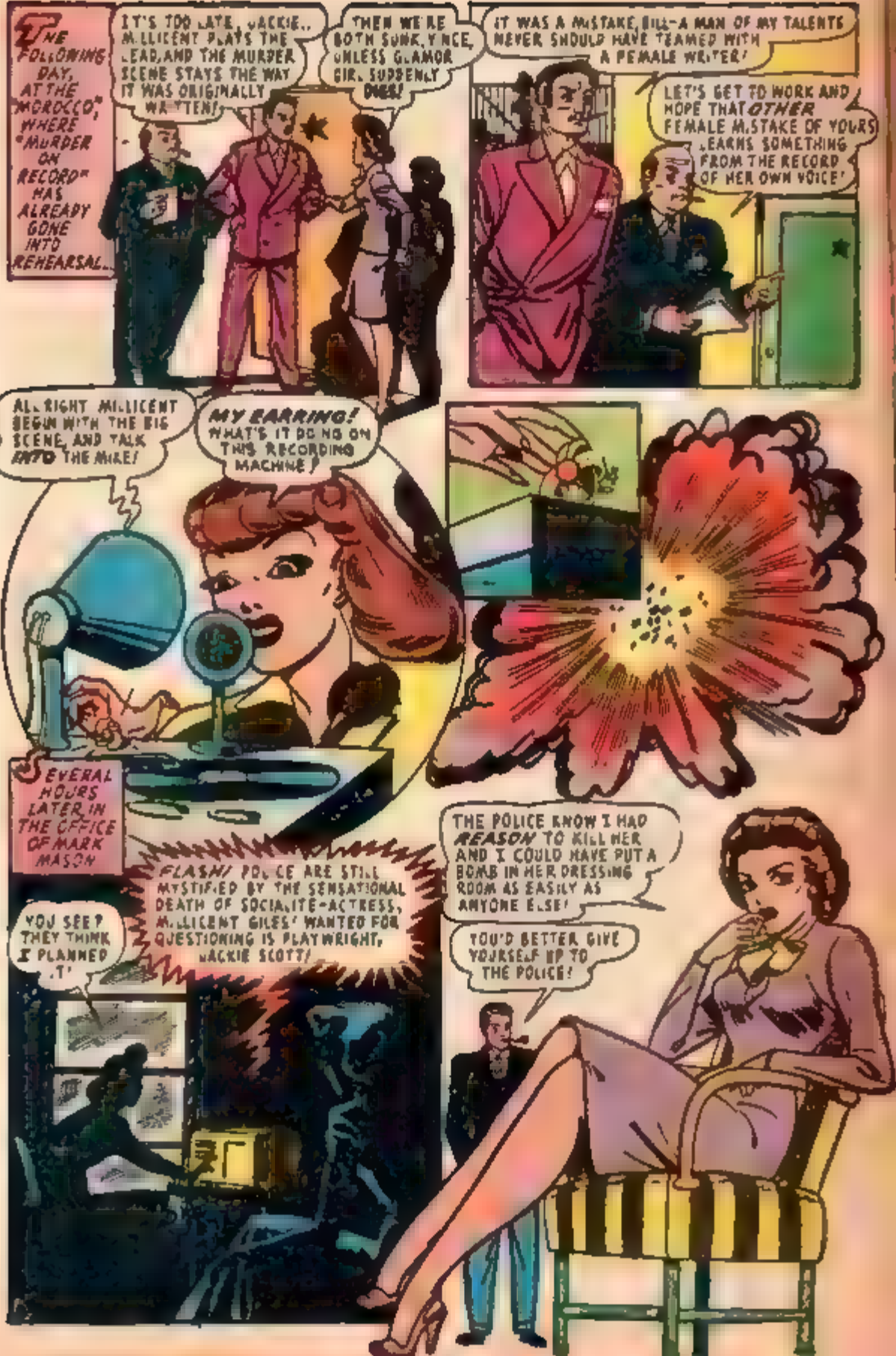
SEVERAL
HOURS
LATER, IN
THE OFFICE
OF MARK
MASON

FLASH! POLICE ARE STILL
MYSTIFIED BY THE SENSATIONAL
DEATH OF SOCIALITE-ACTRESS,
MILLICENT GILES' WANTED FOR
QUESTIONING IS PLAYWRIGHT,
JACKIE SCOTT!

YOU SEE?
THEY THINK
I PLANNED
IT!

THE POLICE KNOW I HAD
REASON TO KILL HER
AND I COULD HAVE PUT A
BOMB IN HER DRESSING
ROOM AS EASILY AS
ANYONE ELSE!

YOU'D BETTER GIVE
YOURSELF UP TO
THE POLICE!



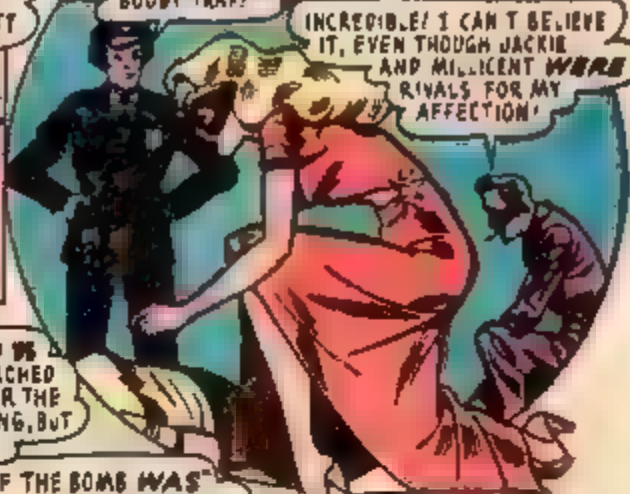
A SHORT TIME LATER, IN THE FATEFUL DRESSING ROOM OF THE MOROCCO THEATRE



THERE IT IS! IF THERE WAS ANY CLUE, IT WAS BLOWN SKY HIGH WHEN THE BOMB WENT OFF! ALL WE HAVE TO GO ON IS THE SCOTT GRL'S MOTIVE!

AND WE DO KNOW A RECORD PLAYER WAS SUGGESTED TO HER YESTERDAY AS PART OF A MURDER PLAN AS NEARLY AS WE CAN FIGURE, THE BOMB WAS PLANTED IN THE PHONOGRAPH WHICH ACTED AS A KIND OF BOOBY TRAP!

INCREDIBLE! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, EVEN THOUGH JACKIE AND MILLICENT WERE RIVALS FOR MY AFFECTION!

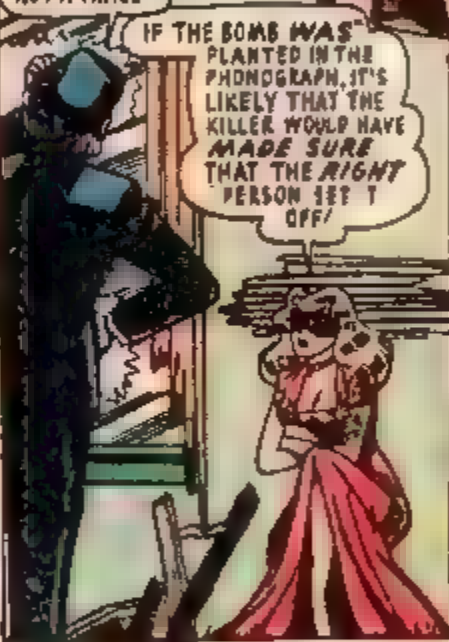


OF COURSE, JACKIE DID USE MILLICENT'S DRESSING ROOM ALONE THIS MORNING!



STRANGE! ONE EARRING CLUTCHED IN HER HAND! JUST ONE EARRING!

THAT PUZZLED US TOO! WE SEARCHED THE ROOM FOR THE OTHER EARRING, BUT NOT A TRACE!



IF THE BOMB WAS PLANTED IN THE PHONOGRAPH, IT'S LIKELY THAT THE KILLER WOULD HAVE MADE SURE THAT THE RIGHT PERSON SET IT OFF!

THE BOMB THEN, WAS PROBABLY NOT HOOKED TO THE PLAYING APPARATUS ITSELF—BUT TO SOMETHING PERSONAL OF MILLICENT'S—THE EARRING!



MARK, THE MURDERER OF THE GILES GIRL IS LINKED TO THIS EARRING! AND I HAVE AN IDEA THE CONNECTION LIES IN THE DEAD WOMAN'S APARTMENT, WHERE I'M GOING RIGHT NOW!

SPLENDID! I HAD NO IDEA DETECTIVE WORK WAS SO SIMPLE!



WHAT DO YOU REALLY EXPECT TO FIND, BLONDE PHANTOM?

PROFESSIONAL SECRET! COME ALONG, THOUGH, IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEE A FEMALE SCOUT AT HER DETECTIVE BEST!



WISH I *DID* HAVE THE TIME TO RUN UP TO MILLICENT'S WITH YOU! SO TERRIBLY BUSY, THOUGH! I'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE REPORT RIGHT HERE!

AND HALF AN HOUR LATER, ALMOST TO THE MINUTE, IN THE APARTMENT OF MILLICENT GILES...

PUT IT DOWN! SURE I KILLED MILLICENT! SHE WAS BLACKMAILING ME FOR A PRISON "STRETCH" I SERVED A LONG TIME AGO! SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW ABOUT IT!

ANOTHER HALF HOUR VINCENT AND THE LAST ACT CURTAIN WILL BE DRAWN ON MILLICENT'S **WILLY-BOY!**

HELLO MARK YES I'VE GOT THE ANSWER! TELL THE BOYS TO ARREST

THE GREAT PLAYWRIGHT HIMSELF!

SAY YOUR PRAYERS, BEAUTIFUL!

YOU FELL INTO THE TRAP, MR. EGOTIST!

I COULDN'T PROVE—UNTIL RIGHT NOW THAT YOU KILLED MILLICENT! YOUR CONFESSION, HOWEVER.

OWW!

GOOD THING YOU UNDERSTOOD MY SIGNALS, MARK

PERSONALLY, I'VE GOT GREY HAIRS, EVEN IF YOUR RECIPE FOR CATCHING KILLERS **DOES WORK!**

A NUMBER OF WEEKS LATER, OUTSIDE THE MOROCCO THEATRE

IT'S BOUND TO BE A HIT, JACKIE!

AND WE DO OWE SOMETHING TO VINCENT FOR THE FINISHED PRODUCT!

YES, HE PROVIDED A **CONVINCING ENDING** FOR YOUR PLAY, AS ONLY A **REAL CRIMINAL** CAN!

THE END

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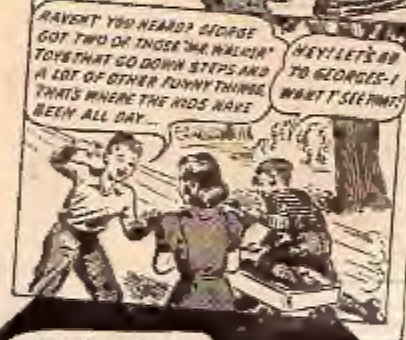
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